MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala cum Agastiswaram*): I think the present arrangement is better.

PRESIDENT: In a matter of this kind I shall be guided by the sentiments of the House and I shall call the leaders into consultation. The leaders of the parties will of course consult their followers and let me know.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION.

PRESIDENT: I have received notice of an ajournment motion from Mr. Velayudhan Pillai for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the serious hardship and heart-burn caused to a very large section of the agriculturists on account of their not being enabled to enjoy the benefits arising out of the few conciliation boards recently established in the State.

Before I take up the usual procedure in this matter it is my duty to point out that if the honourable member gets the support of a sufficient number of honourable members the usual course is to take it up for discussion at 3 o' clock today. That means it may seriously trench upon the budget business. It is open to the honourable member to raise this matter in the usual course when the demand comes but if the honourable member wants to have this particular adjournment motion I shall take the necessary steps.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE: Sir, I rise to a point of order. It is now three or four days after the session has commenced and this adjournment motion ought to have been moved on the 1st day when it was already in the notice of the member.

PRESIDENT: That will be one of the matters I shall have to consider in dealing with this matter. But supposing Mr. Velayudhan Pillai found the hardship suddenly developing between last night and this morning there is nothing to prevent him from bringing this motion today.

MR. PULIYUR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, I shall not press this motion now, and I shall discuss about this point on the demands for grants.

PRESIDENT: Thank you.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

DEMAND I—LAND REVENUE AND TAXES ON INCOME—Rs. 10,08,917.

MR. K. GEORGE: Sir, I rise to move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 10,08,917 under Demand I—Land Revenue and Taxes on Income.

Motion Nos. 1 to 9.

PRESIDENT: I have received notices of motions in regard to this demand under the heading 'allowances' from Messrs. S. Nilakanta Pillai, K. K. Kochu Kunju, T. P. Velayudhan Pillai, K. Narayanaperumal Nadar, John Joseph, Puthupallai S. Krishna Pillai and T. T. Kesavan Sastri. Those raise large questions about policy which must

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

necessarily be taken up and would be logically taken up along with the motions for reduction of the total grant on page 6. Therefore I propose to take up these motions for consideration when we reach page 6. Motion No. 48. Mr. Jebamoney Nadar's motion will come immediately after these. That being so, I now call upon Mr. S. Nilakanta Pillai to move Motion No. 10.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: Before that I wish to know whether these motions as they are framed are in order.

PRESIDENT: When they are moved I shall have to consider whether they are in order as framed at all because it is possible for one to argue that if people travel the more, if travelling allowances are utilised more thoroughly, the officers might do such and such things. That is a matter to be considered when the motions come up.

Motion Nos. 10 and 11.

The following motions were not moved :

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI :

10. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 22, 313 for Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by Re. 1.

(To speak about the necessity of enhancing the pay of the Proverthikars, Accountants and Peons.)

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI :

11. To reduce the allotmant of Rs. 22,313 for Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by Re. 1.

(To protest against the practice of the department in helping the Edavagai and Sreepadom authorities in the realisation of land tax etc, from the tenants.)

Motion No. 12.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI: Sir, I move that the allotment of Rs. 22,313 for Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner be reduced by Re. 1.

My object in moving the motion is to urge upon the attention of the Government the necessity of remitting land tax including water cess for the year 1113 by 50 per cent. Sir, with your permission I want to restrict this motion to tax on paddy lands.

PRESIDENT: Yes, Mr. Nilakanta Pillai.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI: Sir, during the life of the last Assembly, during every budget session we have been moving a motion of this nature and we are tired of moving such a motion. But unfortunately Providence has ruled otherwise. Sir, owing to the failure of rain the cultivators could not cultivate the paddy fields in time and the cultivation of the paddy lands has been postponed. After the cultivation of the paddy lands with very great difficulty, owing to the drought, the crops are going to fail. Every one is aware of that fact and I think much argument is not needed to impress upon the House that remission of tax with regard to paddy lands is necessary. With these words, I commend this motion for the acceptance of the House.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI: Sir, I hasten to support the motion as the honourable the mover himself restricted the scope of the motion to paddy and paddy lands alone, leaving apart lands other than paddy lands. There is very much significance in the motion itself. Sir, as we all know, coming as we do from the southern part of the Travancore State, we are well aware of the anxiety which persuaded the head of the administration to enquire from time to time as to the nature of rainfall in South Travancore on which the cultivation of Nanjinad paddy lands largely depends. Perhaps it may be known to all the honourable members of this House that the only source of irrigation for paddy lands in Nanjinad, namely the Pechippara reservoir went so low as to find its level sometimes even below 3 feet.

PRESIDENT: This morning it is 9·50 feet.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI: I am really very glad to know that the level has risen to 9·50. Sir, that will not avail us, the ryots of Nanjinad. The dry cultivation started some three or four months back and the nature of the cultivation in Nanjinad requires in the first month some dry season and subsequently a heavy flush of water will save the crops but the lack of rainfall and the consequent hardship to the ryots is not describable. As we can very well immagine, the paddy lands which grow paddy there after one or two months of non-irrigation certainly die away and however much the level in the reservoir might rise, whether it be ten feet or twenty feet, most of the lands which have already died away could not be resuscitated, so much so that the position of the ryots is that they raise some money for raising the crops, but subsequently they find that they are disappointed on account of the failure of the rain. As such it is mere justice, it is mere charity on the part of Government, to see their way to give some remission to the cultivators of paddy lands, particularly in Nanjinad. Of course, I have absolutely no objection to extend the same concession to other parts of Travancore where *paddy* is grown. I wish to lay emphasis upon this particular aspect of this motion, namely, that it should be restricted entirely to paddy and paddy lands alone. Otherwise I will be misunderstood to be speaking for all lands in the State. That is why I have very great pleasure in supporting the motion before the House.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): സർ, മി: നീലകണ്ഠപ്പിള്ള അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ ഞാൻ ബലമായി പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു. ദക്ഷിണ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലേയും ഉത്തരതിരുവിതാംകൂറിലേയും മഴയുടെ കണക്കു നോക്കുമ്പോൾ തെക്കൻതിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ മഴ വളരെ കുറഞ്ഞ തോതിലാണ് കാണുന്നത്. ചില സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ നല്ല ഇഞ്ചു പോലും മഴയില്ല. അങ്ങനെയുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽധാരാളം ജലസേചനപദ്ധതികൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കിക്കൊടുത്തു കൃഷിക്കാരെ സഹായിക്കേണ്ട ഒരു ധർമ്മം ഗവണ്മെൻറ് അവശസമുദായക്കാർക്ക് ഉദ്യോഗം,

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം മുതലായ വയിൽ കാണിക്കുന്ന ഒരു ധർമ്മംപോലെ ഗണി ക്കേണ്ട ഒന്നാണ്. ഞങ്ങൾ ആശിച്ചിരുന്ന ആശകളെല്ലാം നിരാശപ്പെ ടുന്ന വിധത്തിലാണ് ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറിയുടെ ഇന്നലത്തെ പ്ര സംഗത്തിൽനിന്നും കാണുന്നത്. ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ മൂന്ന ലക്ഷം രൂപ ഇറി ഗേഷനായി ചേർത്തിട്ടുള്ളതുകൊണ്ട് മതിയാകുമെന്ന ഒരു സമാധാനമാ ണ് അദ്ദേഹം പറഞ്ഞത്. അതു കേട്ടപ്പോൾ ഇന്ന ഒരു അടിയന്ത്ര പ്രമേയം അവതരിപ്പിക്കണമെന്ന ഞാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചിരുന്ന. പക്ഷെ പ്ര സിഡൻറ് അവർകളുടെ അനുഗ്രഹം ഞങ്ങൾക്കുണ്ടാകുമെന്നുള്ള വിശ്വാ സത്തോടുകൂടി ദക്ഷിണതിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ കർഷകരുടെ സങ്കടങ്ങളെ ഞാൻ ഇവിടെ അറിയിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

വ്യവസായപരമായും മറ്റു പലതരത്തിലും തിരുവിതാംകൂറിനെ നല്ല നിലയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരണമെന്നുള്ളതാണ് സചിവോത്തമൻ സർ, സി. പി. രാമസ്വാമി അയ്യരുടെ ഉദ്ദേശമെന്ന പല പ്രസംഗവേദികളി ലും നടത്തിയിട്ടുള്ള അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ പ്രസ്താവന ഞങ്ങളെ ആശ്വസി പ്പിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. മേട്ടൂർ പ്രോജക്ടു തുടങ്ങിയ പല പ്രോജക്ടുകളും ഉൽ ഘടിപ്പിച്ച മഹാനുഭാവനായ അദ്ദേഹം ദിവാൻ പദം കൈയേറ്റതു മു തൽ ദക്ഷിണതിരുവിതാംകൂർകാർ അദ്ദേഹത്തിൽനിന്നും പല ആനുകൂ ല്യവും ലഭിക്കുമെന്ന് ആശിച്ചിരിക്കുകയാണ്. അവരുടെ ആശ നിറ വേറാൻ വലുതായ സംഖ്യകളൊന്നും ചിലവു ചെയ്യേണ്ടതായി വരിക യില്ല. പത്തോ ഇരുപതോ ലക്ഷം രൂപാ ആണ്ടുതോറും കുറെ കാല ത്തേയ്ക്കു ചിലവുചെയ്തു തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ഒട്ടുക്കുള്ള കൃഷിക്കാരുടെ ആവ ശ്യത്തിനായുള്ള ജലസേചന പദ്ധതികൾ നടപ്പാക്കുന്നതു വളരെ ആശാ സപ്രദമാണ്. ഈ മാതിരി ജലദുർഭിക്ഷം തുടർന്നുപോകുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഗ്രാമങ്ങളിലുള്ള ആളുകളെല്ലാം പട്ടണങ്ങളിൽവന്ന് പൈപ്പ് വെള്ളം കുടിച്ച് പട്ടണവാസികൾക്കുംകൂടി ജലദുർഭിക്ഷമുണ്ടാക്കുകയില്ലേ എന്നു കൂടി ഞാൻ സംശയിക്കുന്നു. ഈ ആണ്ടിൽ പേച്ചിപ്പാറയണയിൽ 6 അടി വെള്ളമുള്ളതായിട്ടു പറയുന്നു. പേച്ചിപ്പാറയണ താഴോട്ടു പോ കുന്തോറും വ്യാപ്തി കുറഞ്ഞു കുറഞ്ഞാണ് വരുന്നത്. 8 അ അടി വെ ള്ളം ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നാലും തെക്കൻ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ ജലസേചനത്തിനു വെള്ളം കഷ്ടിച്ചു തികയുകയേ ഉള്ളു. ആ സ്ഥിതിക്കു 5 0 അടി വെ ള്ളം അണയിൽ ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതു കൊണ്ട് ആവശ്യം നടന്നുകൊള്ളുമെന്നും ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറ് മേധാവികൾ സമാധാനപ്പെടാൻ പാടില്ല. ഇപ്പോൾ ചില സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ കൃഷി ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. ചില സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ കൃഷി ചെയ്തിട്ടില്ല. കൃഷി ചെയ്ത സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ കതിരുകൾ ഇപ്പോൾ ഉണ

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. T. C. Kesava Pillai.]

ങ്ങി നിൽക്കുകയാണ്. ആ അവസരത്തിൽ പനിനീർ തളിക്കുന്നതു പോലെ ഒന്നു രണ്ടു മഴ പെയ്തുകൊണ്ട് കൃഷിക്കാർക്ക് ഒരു രക്ഷയുമില്ല. അതു് കരിവല്ല എന്നു പറഞ്ഞു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ കരം ഈടാക്കാൻ സഹായിക്കുകമാത്രമേയുള്ളൂ. കരക്കുടിശ്ശിക്കുള്ളിലേലങ്ങളുടെ പരസ്യം കൊണ്ട് ഗസറിന്റെ വലിപ്പം കൂടിക്കൂടി വരുന്നുണ്ട്. ഡിമാൻറ് നോട്ടീസിന്റെ കണക്കു അതിനെക്കാൾ ഭയങ്കരമായിരിക്കുന്നു. വുന്നർ,സുന്ദരൻ ഈ കണക്കിനാണ് ആണ്ടു തോറും ഡിമാൻറ് നോട്ടീസ് അയക്കുന്നതു. റവന്യൂ റിപ്പോർട്ടിൽ തന്നെപറഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നതു് ഇപ്രകാരമാണ്.

"The total number of demand notices issued during the year was 864,639 against 793,001 in 1110. There was an increase of 71,638 in the total number of demand notices issued during the year as compared with that for 1110. There was an increase of 43,352 in the Trivandrum Division while there was a decrease of 473 in the Quilon Division and 2394 in the Devicolam Division. The increase in the former was due to the Comparatively large number of defaulters in 1111 to whom demand notices had to be issued."

യഥാർത്ഥത്തിൽ ജനങ്ങളുടെ സങ്കടങ്ങൾ ഞങ്ങൾ വക്കീലിനെപ്പോലെ ഇവിടെ പറയുകയാണ്. സചിവോത്തമൻ, സർ സി. പി. രാമസ്വാമി അയ്യർക്ക് എന്തെങ്കിലും ഒരു നന്മ ഈ രാജ്യത്തു ചെയ്യണമെന്നു ആഗ്രഹമുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അതു് ദക്ഷിണ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ കൃഷിക്കാർക്ക് ജലസേചനപദ്ധതികൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കിവച്ചു വെള്ളം കുടിച്ചു മരിക്കത്തക്ക നിലയിൽ ഒരു പരിതസ്ഥിതി അവർക്കു ഉണ്ടാക്കിക്കൊടുക്കുകയാണ്. പേച്ചിപ്പാറയണയിൽ സ്ഥാപിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള മിഞ്ചിന്റെ ശവകുടീരത്തെ കൃഷിക്കാർ ഒരു ഈശ്വരബിംബംപോലെ കരുതി വരുകയാണ്. അതു കൃഷിക്കാരന്റെ ഉപകാരസ്മരണയാണ്. അതുപോലെ പത്തോ നൂറോ കൊല്ലം കഴിയുമ്പോൾ അങ്ങയുടെ പേരും ജനങ്ങൾ സ്മരിക്കത്തക്കവിധത്തിൽ വേണ്ട സഹായങ്ങൾ ചെയ്യണമെന്നു അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അനുകൂലിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR : Sir, I have great pleasure in supporting the motion. I will confine my attention mainly to Nanjinad. In the first place, there is not enough water in the Kodayar Reservoir. Even supposing there is 43 feet of water I should think that 50 per cent. of remission is absolutely necessary. I may be asked why I say so. I will briefly explain some of the important causes.

Firstly the soil in Nanjinad has been exhausted. That part of the country was under cultivation from the hoary past, probably from the time of Cheraman Perumal. Therefore the yield is very very low. The Director of Agriculture, who is an expert and a bio-chemist and

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

who is expected to know everything about the biology of the soil, will bear me out. Unless scientific manure is applied the yield will continue to be low.

The second reason is want of green leaf manure. Whatever might be said of chemical manure or fertilisers, the importance of organic manure or green leaf manure cannot be lost sight of. Formerly the people used to collect green leaf from the forests; but now vexatious restrictions are placed on the removal of green leaf. Therefore the use of green leaf manure for cultivation is not possible.

The third reason is that the price of paddy has gone very low and therefore the margin of profit is also very low. For these three reasons, a remission of 50 per cent. is necessary.

In the Dharmapuram pakuthi, Thengamputhur pakuthi and certain other pakuthies people have organised meetings and sent resolutions to the Government and the Department asking for remission for garden lands. I am told that the Peishkar and the Tahsildar have not yet visited the spot to ascertain the truth of the resolutions. That being the case, I have to state that remission must be given not only for wet lands but also for dry lands.

Another point I omitted to mention is this. At the time of the construction of the Kodayar Project, it was thought that the average rainfall in Pechippara will be 106 inches per annum. But now it is found that the average rainfall is below 90 inches. Therefore in future we will not get sufficient rain in South Travancore. Hence another reservoir is an absolute necessity.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, I also wish to make some observations especially with regard to the conditions in Central Travancore. We must first of all consider whether there is any necessity for the relief sought to be achieved by the passing of this motion. According to the Census Report and the Report of the Agricultural Debt Redemption Committee appointed by the Government, the total amount of agricultural indebtedness in this State may now come to not less than 30 crores of rupees. According to the reduced rate of interest the burden to be borne by way of payment of interest for 1113 at 6 per cent. per annum will come to Rs. 80 lakhs. The agriculturists will have to pay a total amount of Rs. 38·535 lakhs as land revenue for 1113. In addition to that they will have to pay about Rs. 90,000 as market tolls. For educating their children in Government schools and Colleges they will have to pay about Rs. 8 lakhs in 1113. Sir, this is quite sufficient to convince the Government that the agriculturists in the State are in urgent need of some relief. We see that from the year 1108, the volume of demand notices issued and coercive steps taken for the realisation of the land tax has been regularly on the increase. In 1108 the number of demand notices sent was 7,80,083; in 1109 the number was 7,80,354; in 1110 the number was 7,93,001. And in 1111 it was 8,64,039. Sir, in the same manner we see that the average price fetched per acre by revenue

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. Puliyoor T. P. Velayudhan Pillai.]

sales in 1111 was, for wet land, Rs. 35-16-1, and dry land Rs. 17-3-5; and in 1110 for wet lands Rs. 59-19-14 and dry land Rs. 24-0-3. Thus the value of land has always been going down. This is a sure indication of the fact that the agriculturists have been groaning under a heavy burden of indebtedness. In Central Travancore, I know personally that the Kanni crop for 1112 has almost failed on account of the drought and late coming in of rains. So I submit that this is only a legitimate demand and I request that this motion be accepted by the House without a division.

MR. C. JABAMONY NADAR (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): Sir, I would also support the motion. I will not reiterate what has been said by honourable members of this House, but I beg to point out that in the matter of taxation the capacity of the tax-payer and his economic condition have to be taken into consideration regarding that no better evidence is necessary than the official Gazette and the Administration Report of the Department. It will be seen from these that the capacity of the ryot to pay tax is very low. As many as 6000 acres of dry land and 800 acres of wet land were sold in auction in 1111. That shows the hopeless condition in which the ryot is placed. If he thus allows his land to be sold that means the position is intolerable. Therefore, I support the motion.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: Sir, I also wish to support the motion. Though coming from the northern part of the State, I have no complaint about remission being allowed in Nanjinad. They suffer from lack of water, whereas we suffer from surplus of water. The Kuttanad ryot deserves the sympathy of the Government. The cost of cultivation in Kuttanad comes to 10 paras of paddy per para of field, and the average yield there, is about 10 paras. Thus there is no margin of profit left for the cultivators. Further, for their very existence the Kuttanad people require the help of Government. Even in places where there are no Municipalities, the vehicles used by agriculturists such as bullock carts need not be registered. But the canoes used by the people of Kuttanad for moving from place to place have to be registered annually. A canoe built at a cost of Rs. 100 has to be registered at Rs. 8 a year. These canoes are absolutely necessary for the people to move from place to place. It is equivalent to registering the legs of the people in the Towns. Because of this registry also the cost of cultivation is higher in Kuttanad than in other places. With regard to the cultivators in the Vembanad area, bunds have to be built to a height of 10 or 12 ft. costing about Rs. 300 per *Dannu*. Again Kuttanad is affected by floods every year which last for days together. Children have to be sent to schools through dangerous water where crocodiles and other creatures exist. If this House can imagine the condition of the people of Kuttanad, who have to spend much on cultivation I am sure they will pass this motion for reducing tax by 50 per cent.

MR. D. FRANCIS (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankode*): *Sir, நான் இந்த பிரேமேயத்தை பலமாய் ஆமோதிக்கிறேன். எனக்கு ஒரு பெரிய பொது ஞானமத்து இலாகா உண்டு.*

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

PRESIDENT : Order, Order. The honourable member is of course perfectly entitled to speak in Tamil, as he comes from a locality where high flown Tamil is spoken. But I am sure that Mr. George dose not understand a word of what he says. Therefore a little more homely Tamil may be used.

MR. D. FRANCIS : I shall speak in ordinary Tamil. இந்த டிபார்ட்டுமெண்டுதென்திருவிதாங்கூருக்கு ஆவசியப்பட்ட காரியங்களை சரிவர செய்கிறதில்லை.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Torala cum Agastiswaram*) : Sir, I do not find any Tamil Reporter taking down the Tamil speech of the honourable member.

PRESIDENT : I am told that there is a Tamil Reporter engaged for this purpose so that Tamil eloquence may have complete play.

MR. D. FRANCIS : நெல் கிருஷிக்கு ஆவசியமான ஜலம் கொடுக்காத்தினால் கிருஷிகர்கள அவ்வளவு பேரும் நஷ்டப்பட்டு கஷ்டப்பட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். புதுசிலமாக திருத்தப்பட்டிருக்கிற நிலங்களுக்கு போதுமான ஜலம் கட்டிவைப்பதற்கு போதுமான அணைகள் தீர்க்கவேண்டும். சின்னறு ஸ்கீம் பெருஞ்சாணி ஸ்கீம் முதலிய லேறுபல அணைகளும் நாஞ்சிநாட்டு கிருஷிக்கு உபயோகப்படத்தக்க விதத்தில் முன்னிருந்த Horssly முதலிய இஞ்சினியர்மார் பார்த்து வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனல் இதுவரையிலும் பேச்சுப்பாறை அணையத்தவிர வேறு ஒரு அணையும் தீர்க்கப்படவில்லை.

பேச்சுப்பாறை அணையிலுள்ள ஜலம் தென்திருவிதாங்கூர் நிலங்கள் முழுவதுக்கும் போதும் என்கிற விசுவாசத்தோடுகூடி வருஷம் ஒன்றக்கு 200 ரூபாய்வரை பாட்டங்கெட்டக்கூடிய வருக்கைமாமரங்களையும், பிலாமரங்களையும் தறித்து புஞ்சை நிலங்களை நஞ்சை நிலங்களாக கிருஷிகாரர்கள் மாற்றினர்கள். நிறுத்தப்பட்டிருந்த சில சனிவிருஷ்டிகளும்கூட ஜலக்கட்டு முகாந்திரம் அழிந்துபோய்விட்டன. ஜலம் கட்டிவைக்கிற குளங்கள் எல்லாம் டிபார்ட்டுமெண்டால் விற்கப்பட்டன. இந்நிறைக்கு தென்திருவிதாங்கூர் கிருஷிக்காரர்களுடைய ஸ்திதியைப்பார்த்தால் மிகவும் பரிதாபகரமானது. எல்லாப் பெரிய சமுசாரிகளும் கஷ்டப்பட்டுவிட்டார்கள். கல்விலை குறைந்துபோனதும் இதற்கு ஒரு காரணமாகும். ஆதலால் இன்நிறைக்குத் தானே கூடுதல் ஒரு அணை தீர்ப்பதற்கு வேண்டிய வேலையை உடனடி ஆரம்பிக்க இங்கேயிருக்கும் போதமராமத்து இஞ்சினீர தலைவர் Mr. Truscott அவர்களுக்கு உத்தரவு அளிக்கவேண்டும். ஏலத்தில் விற்றுப் போயிருக்கிற குளங்களை திரும்ப எடுக்கவோ அல்லது புதுக்குளங்களை வெட்டவோ செய்யவேண்டும். தென்திருவிதாங்கூரில் சரம் ரெம்பவும் கூடிப்போனபடியால் 100-க்கு 50 சதமானம் குறைக்கவேணும். ஆதலால் நான் Mr. நீலகண்டபிள்ளை கொண்டுவந்த பிரேமேயத்தை பெலமாயி ஆமோதிக்கிறேன்.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam cum Kottayam*) : I also support the motion of Mr. Nilakanta Pillai. I wish to say a few words with regard to the condition of the ryots of Kuttanad. The ryots are losing every year a big amount in connection with paddy cultivation. In those places cultivation is carried on in reclaimed areas and the yield in such places has become very poor and consequently the riots are losing a large

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. A. J. John.]

sum in this direction. There is another factor, the ryots are compelled to pay land tax whether their lands are cultivated or not.

The cultivators wanted the erection of a bund on the 2 sides of the R. Block in the Vembanad Reclamations. They were agitating for about five years from 1107 to 1112 for the construction of a bund. They regularly petitioned Government and as a result an estimate was prepared in 1108. Unfortunately the matter was left there. The ryots continued the agitation and as a result the construction of the bund was completed in 1112. The ryots cultivated the lands with the help of this bund. That resulted in heavy loss. The yield was poor but the ryots were compelled to pay land tax. The lands were left fallow on account of the fault of Government. When such being the case, I cannot understand how Government can realise land tax from the ryots of those places from 1107 to 1111.

It could also be seen that the bund was considered necessary by Government and so it was constructed at Government cost. The lands were left fallow on account of the fault of Government. That being the case I cannot understand how Government can compel the ryots to pay land tax due to them. My point is that cultivation in Kuttanad is becoming a losing concern. I request Government to help the ryots in enriching the yield of lands. With these words I support the motion.

MR. K. G. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara* cum *Trivandrum*): I beg to support the motion. The Government should look into the question of rehabilitation of the agriculturists in the county. It is unnecessary at this stage for anybody to convince this House that the agriculturists are indebted heavily. I believe it was in the last session of the Assembly or just before that a measure was passed to relieve the agriculturists of this heavy burden. It is called the Agriculturists' Relief Bill. I submit, Sir, that the ryots came to us asking for bread and we gave them stone. They asked for extensive and considerable relief and what we have given them is no relief at all and that has added confusion to the already confused state of affairs. I believe the learned members of this House would have seen a big flock of Kuttanad ryots roaming about the roads of Trivandrum town and asking for the help and sympathy of all and sundry. They are about 100 in number. They come to us and ask us to redress their grievances. I asked them what they wanted and they said that it was impossible for them even to stick on to their lands unless some immediate and effective reduction in land tax was done at once. I believe it is the bounden duty of every one of us to stand by them and give them all necessary relief.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: നെയ്യാറ്റിൻകര താലൂക്കിലേക്ക കരം കുറക്കണമെന്ന മെമ്പർ വിചാരിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. K. G. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI: When I was speaking of the agriculturists I meant the agriculturists of the whole State and not of any particular locality. In my constituency of Neyyattinkara there is necessity for giving additional relief because the inhabitants are suffering from malaria. Some of them are dying out in certain pakuthies. Though Government gave relief in this direction, I for one feel that adequate relief measures have not been given. The disease is still there. Therefore with regard to my particular constituency, not only is reduction in land tax necessary but the Government must also render sufficient remedial measures to keep them alive for the next few years. In any case, Sir, without adding anything further, I emphatically join my own with the voice of other members of the House in thinking that relief must be given immediately, and without the routine of red-tapism. With these words I support the motion.

MR. P. VIVEKANANDAM (*Nominated*): Sir, I rise to support the motion. I can profess that I come from a community of which most of the members are agriculturists, though the landed proprietors are mostly the so-called high caste people. In my community many of the people are actually ploughing the lands and cultivating the fields. I as a member who comes from Nanjinad know the state of affairs there perfectly well. Nanjinad was renowned as the granary of Travancore but now stark naked poverty is stalking throughout the area. Without any reference to the state of affairs it is well known to the House that the monsoons have failed. As such the difficulties and troubles of the ryots are increasing day by day. On a cursory view of the fields in that region I can say that the lands were left fallow even for the last crop.

I want to draw the attention of the House to another fact. The necessity for a supplementary reservoir was very often impressed on the officials here. I know that so many schemes were proposed but nothing is forthcoming. As such it is very difficult with the present reservoir, that is the Pechipara dam, to supply adequate water to meet the needs of those areas for irrigation. Hence, in Nanjinad, the necessity for having a supplementary reservoir is really great. As regards land tax I agree with the other members of the House in thinking that a remission of at least 50 per cent. of the tax should be effected. With these words I support the motion.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikam* cum *Kottayam*): Sir, I also support the motion. There are large tracts of paddy lands in North Travancore, particularly in Vaikam which are affected by the floods. Instead of irrigation facilities what is required in those regions is mostly drainage canals. Formerly I know there were a net work of drainage canals in Vaikam but of late they have become silted up. The use of those drainage canals was to let out water during times of floods. It is on account of the recurrence of floods in those places that large tracts of lands could not be cultivated with any profit. Therefore unlike lands in South Travancore what we require is the construction of a number of drainage canals.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. N. Ramakrishna Pillai.]

In Vaikam most of these canals have become silted up and useless and some of the sites have even been registered as puduvals long ago, so much so, that during the meetings of the previous Popular Assembly I know, year after year, there were complaints from the representatives of Vaikam that drainage canals should be improved and that new canals should be constructed to let out water during floods. I draw particular attention to this fact because, on account of the neglect of the Public Works Department—I do not know which department takes upon itself the duty of seeing to these works. These tracts have not yet been rendered fit for cultivation. This department does not pay sufficient attention to the necessity of the ryots in those places, especially where on account of floods large tracts of lands could not be cultivated at all.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: പേഷ്ക്കാരന്മാർക്ക ഇറിഗേഷൻ ആഫീസർമാരുടെ അധികാരമുള്ളതായി മെമ്പക്കറിയാമോ ?

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: For that matter, in olden days the Peishkar was entrusted with the duties of the Chief Engineer, Excise Commissioner, etc. Those duties were centered in that officer, so much so, that he could know very well what the needs of the ryots were. He could also take action upon the information he receives. On account of the division of the departments it has now become very difficult for departments to communicate with each other in order that timely help could be rendered to the ryots. I would therefore suggest that an investigation should be made with regard to the condition of the lands where on account of the recurrence of floods cultivation could not be carried on. Aagain, there are places where salt water should be prevented from entering and destroying the crops. In other words incursions of salt water should be prevented by the timely construction of bunds. There are may places like that in North Travancore and if sufficient outlet could be made there are also large tracts of land which could be cultivated with better profit I submit that an investigation should be made in regard to them and sufficient attention should in particular be paid to the construction of drainage canals in North Travancore. It is not like South Travancore where irrigation is most needed. In North Travancore it is drainage that is necessary. With these words I support the motion.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORATHARAKAN: ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ ബലമായി പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു. തെക്കൻതിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ എന്നപോലെ തന്നെ ജലസേചനത്തിന്റെ ആവശ്യം വടക്കൻതിരുവിതാംകൂറിലും ധാരാളമുണ്ട്. ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും ധാരാളം പണം വ്യയംചെയ്ത പല ചിറകളും കുളങ്ങളും വെട്ടി നന്നാക്കുകയും അതിന്റെ ചെലവിന്റെ പകുതി പണ്ടുകൊല്ലംകൊണ്ട് ജനങ്ങളിൽനിന്നും ഈടാക്കത്ത

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

ക്കവണ്ണം വേണ്ട വ്യവസ്ഥകൾ ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. കുളങ്ങൾ നന്നാക്കിയിട്ട് രണ്ടുമൂന്നു കൊല്ലമേ ആയിട്ടുള്ളുവെങ്കിലും അതിലെ വെള്ളം കൃഷിക്കാർക്ക് ഉപയോഗിക്കാൻ സൌകര്യമില്ലാത്തവിധത്തിലാണ് ഇപ്പോൾ തീർന്നിരിക്കുന്നത്. ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും പണംചെലവാക്കി കുളങ്ങളെല്ലാം വെട്ടുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിലും അതിലേക്കാവശ്യമുള്ള ചീപ്പുകൾ ശരിയായി നിർമ്മിക്കാത്തതാണ് ഇതിനുള്ള കാരണം. കൃഷിക്കാർക്ക് കുളങ്ങളിലെ വെള്ളം ഉപയോഗപ്പെടുന്നില്ലെങ്കിലും കരംപിരിക്കുന്നതിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് യാതൊരു ദാക്ഷിണ്യവും കാണിക്കുന്നില്ല. കുളങ്ങളുടെ ഉപയോഗശൂന്യതയെക്കുറിച്ച് അധികാരസ്ഥാനങ്ങളിലും ഗവണ്മെൻറിനോടും പുരാതിപ്പെട്ടിട്ടും. ഇതുവരെ യാതൊരു ഫലവുമുണ്ടായിട്ടില്ല.

കുളനിരപ്പിൽനിന്നും രണ്ടോ മൂന്നോ അതിലധികമോ അടി പൊങ്ങിയ നിലങ്ങളിലേക്കുപോലും മേൽപറഞ്ഞ പല കുളങ്ങളിലേയും വെള്ളം ഉപയോഗപ്പെടുമെന്നുള്ള നിലയിൽ ആ നിലങ്ങളിലേക്ക് വെള്ളക്കരം ചുമത്തിയിരിക്കുന്നതിൻെറ അർത്ഥം എന്താണെന്നു മനസ്സിലാകുന്നില്ല. അതിനാൽ കുളത്തിലെ വെള്ളം ഉപയോഗപ്പെടുത്തുന്നവരിൽ നിന്നുമാത്രം വെള്ളക്കരം ഈടാക്കുകയും അല്ലാത്തവരിൽ ചുമത്തിയിട്ടുള്ള വെള്ളക്കരം കുറച്ചുകൊടുക്കുകയുംചെയ്യേണ്ടതാണ്. പൊങ്ങിയ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലുള്ള കൃഷിയുടമസ്ഥന്മാർ ഇതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു അധികാരസ്ഥാനങ്ങളിൽ ആവലാതിപ്പെട്ടിട്ടും മറ്റു സംഗതികളിലെന്നപോലെ അധികാരികൾ മൌനംഭീക്ഷിക്കുന്നതായിട്ടാണ് കാണുന്നത്.

ഗവണ്മെൻറ് നന്നാക്കിയിട്ടുള്ള പല കുളങ്ങളിലും നന്നാക്കിയപ്പോൾ ചീപ്പും പൂട്ടും ഉണ്ടാക്കിയിരുന്നുവെങ്കിലും ഇപ്പോൾ അതൊന്നും തന്നെ കാണുന്നില്ല. എൻെറ താമസസ്ഥലത്തിനടുത്തുള്ള ചെങ്ങന്നാരിയ്യൽചിറ പണ്ട് കൃഷിയുടമസ്ഥന്മാർതന്നെ നന്നാക്കി. രണ്ടടിയിലും അഞ്ചടിയിലും ഏഴടിയിലും ചീപ്പുകൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കി ഇട്ടിരുന്നു. വെള്ളം നിറഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്ന കാലങ്ങളിൽ ഏഴടി പൊക്കമുള്ള ചീപ്പു തുറക്കുകയും വെള്ളം കുറയുംതോറും താഴെത്താഴെയുള്ള ചീപ്പുകൾ തുറന്നു വെള്ളം വിട്ടുകൊടുക്കുകയുമായിരുന്നു പതിവ്. ആ കാലങ്ങളിൽ വെള്ളത്തിനു ദുർഭിക്ഷമില്ലായിരുന്നു. ഇപ്പോൾ ഇറിഗേഷൻഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകാർ ൧൦൦൦ രൂപായോളം ചിലവുചെയ്തു ചിറ നന്നാക്കി രണ്ടടിപൊക്കത്തിൽമാത്രം ഒരു ചീപ്പ് ഇട്ടിട്ടേയുള്ളൂ. അതും ചീപ്പിനു ഉണ്ടായിരുന്ന പൂട്ടു മോശപ്പെട്ടുപോയതുകൊണ്ട് വെള്ളംവിടുന്ന അവസരങ്ങളിൽ മുഴുപ്പായ കെട്ടിനിൽക്കുന്ന വെള്ളംമുഴുവനും ഒന്നായി ഒലിച്ചുപോകയും

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Kochukoratharakan.]

വെള്ളം കൃഷിക്കാരുടെ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾക്കു വേണ്ടതുപോലെ കിട്ടാതെവരികയും ആണ് ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ അനുഭവം. അതുകൊണ്ട് ഈ ചീപ്പുകൾക്കെല്ലാം പൂട്ടും താക്കോലും ഉണ്ടാക്കി യോഗ്യന്മാരായ അനുദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെ ഏൽപ്പിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. ജലവിതരണം ശരിയായി നടക്കുന്നോ എന്ന ചുമതലയുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരും അന്വേഷിച്ചിരിക്കണം. ഞാൻ മേല്പറഞ്ഞപ്രകാരം ഒരു നിയന്ത്രണം ഇല്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു ടി ചിറമാത്രമല്ലാ മറ്റു പല ചിറകളും ഉപയോഗശൂന്യമായിത്തീർന്നിട്ടുണ്ട്.

ഇറിഗേഷൻ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരായി കുറെ കാമൺസെൻസുള്ള ആളുകളെ നിയമിച്ചാൽ കൊള്ളാം. ഇന്നത്തെ വ്യവസ്ഥകൊണ്ട് ഗവണ്മെൻറിന് പണച്ചെലവും ജനങ്ങൾക്കു കഷ്ടതയും നികുതിഭാരവും ആണ് ഫലം. ഇതെല്ലാം പ്രസ്താവിച്ചുകൊണ്ട് കരത്തിൽ 10 ശതമാനം കുറവുചെയ്യണമെന്നുള്ള ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അനുകൂലിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. C RAMAN KUNJU (*Nominated*): സർ, ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അനുകൂലിച്ചുകൊണ്ട് ഒന്നുരണ്ടു സംഗതികൾ സഭയുടെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരണമെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നത്. ദുരിതത്തിലും കടത്തിലും കൃഷിക്കാർ മുഴുകിയിരിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു കരം കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള അവരുടെ പ്രാപ്തി നഷ്ടപ്പെട്ടുപോയിരിക്കുന്നു. തൻനിമിത്തം കരക്കുടിശികയ്ക്കായി അവരുടെ നിലങ്ങളും മറ്റു വസ്തുക്കളും കുറഞ്ഞവിലക്കു വിൽക്കപ്പെടുന്നുണ്ട്. ലാഭത്തിൽ വസ്തു കൈക്കലാക്കാമെന്നുള്ള വിചാരത്താൽ പല സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലും ധനികന്മാർ കരക്കുടിശികയ്ക്കായി ലേലംചെയ്യുന്ന വസ്തുക്കളെ പിടിച്ചു ആദായമുണ്ടാക്കാൻ ശ്രമിക്കുന്നു. ഇതു കൃഷിക്കാരെ ഭൂമിയില്ലാത്തവരാക്കിത്തീർക്കാൻ പര്യാപ്തമാക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. അവശസമുദായക്കാർക്കു സൌജന്യമായിഭൂമി പതിച്ചുകൊടുത്തു് അവരെ ഭൂസ്വത്തുടമസ്ഥന്മാരാക്കാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ശ്രമം ചെയ്യുന്ന അവസരത്തിൽ കരക്കുടിശികയ്ക്കായി അവരുടെ വസ്തുക്കൾ വിൽപ്പിക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ ശ്രമം അസ്ഥാനത്തിലാകാതിരിക്കയില്ല. അവശസമുദായക്കാർക്കു സൌജന്യമായി പതിച്ചുകൊടുത്ത ഭൂമികൾ കരക്കുടിശികയ്ക്കായി ധാരാളം വിൽപ്പിച്ചുവരുന്നുണ്ട്. കർഷകകരം കുറവുചെയ്തില്ലെങ്കിൽ അവശസമുദായക്കാരോടൊപ്പം മുഴുവനും ഭൂമിയില്ലാത്തവരായിത്തീർന്നുപോകും. ഭൂമിയിൽനിന്നും കിട്ടുന്ന ആദായത്തിന്റെ ഒരു ശമമാണ് കരം. അതു കുടിശികവരുമ്പോൾ ആ ഭൂമി മുഴുവനുംതന്നെ വിൽപ്പിക്കുകയുന്നതു് ഏറ്റവും സങ്കടകരമായ ഒരു കാര്യമാകുന്നു. അതിനാൽ വിളവു

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

ജപ്തിചെയ്യ് കരക്കുടിശിഖ ഈടാക്കാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാതെവരുന്ന സമയങ്ങളിൽ മാത്രമേ സ്ഥാവരവസ്തുക്കൾ ലേലം ചെയ്യാവൂ എന്ന ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ഒരു വ്യവസ്ഥയുണ്ടാക്കണം.

കരുനാഗപ്പള്ളി താലൂക്കിൻറെ സമുദ്രതീരത്തു നല്ല വിളവു കിട്ടിക്കൊണ്ടിരുന്നതായ അനേകം നിലങ്ങൾ കടലാക്രമണത്താൽ കൃഷിക്കുപയോഗമില്ലാതായിത്തീർന്നിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇവയിൽനിന്നു യാതൊരാദായവും ഇപ്പോൾ കൃഷിക്കാക്കു കിട്ടുന്നില്ല. ഈ നിലങ്ങളുടെ കരക്കുടിശിഖയ്ക്കു നല്ല വിളവുള്ള മറ്റു വസ്തുക്കളാണു ലേലം ചെയ്തുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതു; അതുകൊണ്ട് ഇങ്ങനെ കൃഷിക്കു ഉപയോഗശൂന്യമായിത്തീർന്നിട്ടുള്ള നിലങ്ങളുടെ കരം കഴിഞ്ഞകാലത്തേക്കെങ്കിലും പൂർണ്ണമായി ഇളവുചെയ്തു കൊടുത്തില്ലെങ്കിൽ നിലം ഉടമസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ കയ്യും വളരെ കഷ്ടതയിലായിത്തിരും.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN (*Quilon cum Kottarakara*): Sir, I rise to support this motion most heartily. The honourable members of this House have given expression to the sentiments regarding the pitiable plight of the agriculturists, the way in which they are plunged into indebtedness, how they are not able to cultivate their lands for want of funds, how they are not able to pay tax and how they are not able even to make both ends meet. Some of them, especially Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai, referred to the pitiable condition of the ryots of Nanjinad and how they had come to Trivandrum, the capital city, seeking help; and the way in which my friend has given expression to them, ought to have attracted the sympathy and attention of the House. Surely that is a very sorrowful state of affairs. Agricultural classes form the bulk of the population and the backbone of the community. If they are left in this most pitiable condition what would be the future of the nation, what would become of the well-being and peace of the country? Surely it ought to engage the serious attention of the Government. Above all other questions that the Government have to consider, this is the most important.

In Northern Travancore we find that the agriculturists are suffering on account of floods. In my own constituency, especially in the Quilon taluk, the ryots of Kallada and places by the side of Ithikara river are suffering a lot on account of floods that visit the country almost every year. At Kallada where the population depends mostly and mainly on agriculture, the havoc wrought by the river Kallada during rainy seasons is so much that they suffer indescribably. Similar is the case of the ryots residing by the side of Ithikara river. If we go through the speeches of the honourable members from South Travancore we find that the condition of the ryots in Nanjinad is most pitiable. We can see the extent to which the havoc ranges there from the depth of feeling with which the members speak when they have any

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. P. Kunjukrishnan].

occasion to speak about that question here. Nanjinad was once the granary of the country and the ryots were far advanced and they were really very much in the eye of the Government as a very important section of the society. Now the ryots there are helpless. They are plunged into misery and they are not able to make both ends meet. There is not enough water in Nanjinad. That is the condition there whereas in Central and North Travancore it is havoc wrought by water. In Nanjinad there is not enough water for cultivation. Even at present there are hundreds of acres of land lying fallow because the ryots do not get water for cultivation. My esteemed friend Mr. Sivathanu Pillai who feels much for the pitiable condition of the people in Nanjinad has given expression to this state of affairs as vehemently and in as strong terms as he could. Reference was made here in the budget speeches especially by Mr. Sivathanu Pillai that the owners of lands which lie fallow fail to pay tax. This is really not a very happy situation. My friend Mr. Nadar referred to the fact that the soil ought to be made more fertile in order that better crops may be got. In this connection it has to be particularly noted that the people of Nanjinad are ryots and ryots alone. They do not have another occupation or industries or big cultivation such as rubber, tea or cardamom. They depend entirely upon paddy.

PRESIDENT: I do not deny the importance of this motion and I have given the fullest latitude for members to speak. I do not desire to curtail the liberty of discussion. But honourable members should realise that this is a heavy demand and many honourable members raised several points and at 5 o'clock the demand has to be put to vote, so that they will curtail their remarks as far as possible.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: I have only to emphasise the importance of ameliorating the condition of the agricultural classes especially those of Nanjinad and Kuttanad and other agriculturists suffering in Travancore. With these words I most heartily support the motion.

MR. M. L. JANARDANA PILLAI: I have great pleasure in supporting the motion. In the course of the general discussion I pointed out the need for giving adequate and immediate relief to the agriculturists. My only regret is that by virtue of this motion they are not able to get more. I am looking at the question from a different angle of view. I feel that it is necessary for the existence of commerce and industry in this country that agriculture has to be maintained, and fairly safely maintained. One thing on which the Excise Department takes credit very often is that we have a favourable trade balance. I believe that it is a matter on which there is difference of opinion. Nevertheless that seems to be a strong point relied upon by Government from time to time. If we should have a trade balance favourable to us the agriculturist must possess the necessary purchasing power. If it does not we have not only no chance of showing a trade balance which is favourable to us but industries also must necessarily languish. The agriculturists

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

must necessarily produce the necessary articles in order that exportable trade balance may be in our favour. It is very clearly seen from the expression of opinion made in this House and by the admissions made from time to time by the Government themselves that the agriculturists stand in need of relief.

MR. E. P. VARUGHESE: Is the trade balance in our favour now?

MR. M. L. JANARDANA PILLAI: As I said one has to be very careful about these figures because there are no sufficient statistics with regard to these matters.

Therefore I repeat that the agriculturists must be given as much help as possible in order that they may be of indirect help to trade and industry in the country. Therefore I have great pleasure in supporting the motion viewed from the commercial standpoint. The purchasing power of the people is at a very low ebb. Exportable commodities are slowly declining in value. Under these circumstances I commend the motion for the acceptance and the sympathetic consideration of the Government.

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Sir, in a debate which has become over-important by the discussions that we have heard to-day Honourable Members from South Travancore had made out a strong case for a total remission of tax for Nanjinad. The motion is only for a reduction of 50 per cent. of the tax. Under the circumstances I think that Government can assure that the matter will be dealt with fairly. Where it is found that a total remission is necessary, total remission has to be given and where partial remission is necessary partial remission has also to be given. Nevertheless I shall refer to one topic, as dykes and dams and locks have become relevant. I refer to about 20,000 to 24,000 acres of land served by the Thottapally lock. That lock was built fifteen or twenty years ago when the lands lying south of it remained unreclaimed and uncultivated. Since then a road has been constructed from Alleppey to Quilon and several culverts have been constructed across the road so that the brackish water from the sea or rather from the backwaters is not being kept back by the lock, but allowed to enter free. The lock has thus lost its usefulness. The only utility that the lock now serves is to prevent the ingress and egress of about 350 canoes passing along every day. There are also about a hundred steam launches and motor launches passing up and down. If the present lock be dismantled and another constructed at the north-west end of the Kayankulam lake it might serve its purpose better and about 20 to 24 thousand acres of lands will also be benefited. I want to bring this to the notice of the Chief Engineer through the Land Revenue Commissioner.

MR. K. GEORGE: Sir, the Honourable Members who brought forward this motion has confined his remarks to the necessity for reducing land tax on paddy fields.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: Sir,.....

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

PRESIDENT: Order, order. Mr. George is speaking on the motion and when he is on the legs it is not in order for the honourable member to interrupt.

MR. K. GEORGE: In the course of the debate the scope of the motion has been expanded. Various honourable members spoke on the subject and brought in very many matters not chiefly connected with the motion under discussion. The honourable member Mr. Narayanaperumal Nadar included not only wet lands but also garden lands. Subjects not directly relevant to the motion such as the conditions of the agriculturists in this country, the need for more irrigation facilities, the difficulty experienced by North Travancore people regarding lack of provision for drainage and even certain specific matters as the need for a particular chira or canal or of the need for the improvement of certain swampy areas behind the Thottapally lock, all these have been brought forward. During the limited time at my disposal I am afraid I shall not be able to deal with each of these matters.

PRESIDENT: I shall be able to give you 15 minutes.

MR. K. GEORGE: There is however one specific question which I think I should refer to. I am referring to the remarks which fell from my friend Mr. A. J. John regarding the unfair treatment meted out by Government to the R block kayal cultivators. Sir, I am very surprised, I should say astounded, at the remarks from the honourable member. The R Block was registered several years ago by auction. When that registration took place there was no understanding whatever that Government will put up any bund for that block.

MR. A. J. JOHN: May I know whether there was any representation to Government for the building up of a bund when the block was registered?

MR. K. GEORGE: There was some representation when the surrounding blocks were registered and the Government had issued some orders in connection with that.

MR. A. J. JOHN: Was that order cancelled?

MR. K. GEORGE: That is not the point here.

MR. A. J. JOHN: Was there any representation. ... ...

MR. K. GEORGE: That was the position at the time of registration. Subsequently the Government gave them ever so many concessions. For instance the R Block was originally taxed as the 12th tharam. It was reduced by half to the 13th tharam. It was only recently that the Government spent a very large amount of money about Rs. 70,000 for putting up a rubble outer bund for the block.

MR. K. M. EAPEN (*Commerce and Industry, North*): When was that bund put up?

MR. K. GEORGE: In 1112.

MR. K. G. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI: May I know... ...

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

PRESIDENT: Order, order.

MR. K. GEORGE: That being so I was rather surprised that the Honourable Member should accuse the Government of being hard and unfair to R Block kayal cultivators. As a matter of fact they have been more than generous.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: May I know.....

PRESIDENT: Order, order.

MR. A. J. JOHN: Sir,.....

PRESIDENT: Order, order.

MR. K. GEORGE: I shall now pass on to the general questions. The motion before the House is that a general remission of 50 per cent. of land tax be given in respect of paddy lands I do not deal with garden lands because the mover of the motion and several subsequent speakers confined their remarks to paddy lands. Sir, in dealing with this question we have to view it from various aspects. In the first place we must see that the remission if granted will be advantageous to the ryots. We ought to see whether the 50 per cent. remission of land tax would go in any way to help the ryots. Now I have repeatedly mentioned in this House that fact the only a very small amount of tax is paid by the majority of the agriculturists and it has been several times stated that 55 per cent. of the pattadars of the State pay only less than a rupee a year; And another 32 per cent. of them pay only Rs. 5 and less. Taking the two together we have got 87 per cent. of the pattadars who pay less than Rs. 5 per year.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: May I know from the member.....

PRESIDENT: Order, order.

MR. K. GEORGE: So what benefit does a 50 percent. remission of annual tax give to the ryots?

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Does the member.....

PRESIDENT: Order, order.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Sir, the Honourable Member is yielding to me.

PRESIDENT: Mr. George has not yielded to you and he will go on with the speech.

MR. K. G. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the member state specifically whether he agrees that there is distress among agriculturists?

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know how he arrived at the figures 55 per cent. as giving a tax of less than one rupee and 32 per cent more than Rs. 5?

PRESIDENT: Before I allow the Honourable Revenue Member to speak I want to know if any member wants to interrupt him? I won't afterwards allow any member to interrupt.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: May I know how the defaulters are classified according to the Land Revenue Commissioner?

(Mr. K. George sits down).

PRESIDENT: It is open to you not to sit down.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. K. GEORGE: The first question is whether there is distress among agriculturists. Well Sir, there was distress and there is some distress still. But as the honourable members themselves stated during the course of the general discussion the acuteness of the economic depression is disappearing. And so whatever extent of distress which previled in the previous years I take it that the distress is now less than what it was. Then as regards the point raised by Mr. Sivathanu Pillai I must say that statistics were collected from various taluks of the State and the information is based on the figures so collected. As regards the question asked by Mr. Thanu Pillai Sir, I have no information at present as to the classification of defaulters to say how many pay less than one rupee and how many more than one rupee. Well I am unable to enlighten the honourable members on that point.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: I did not want the exact number but what I wanted was a general idea.

PRESIDENT: Order, Order.

MR. K. GEORGE; The point is this. What benefit is going to be accrued to the ryots by a remission of 50 per cent. On the other hand what do the Government lose by it? Several lakhs of rupees. And the State which is having several forward proposals for the benefit of the people would be crippled if such a large amount of State revenue as the land revenue is reduced and very little benefit is afforded to the tax-paying public. I have also to point out that the land tax in the State is on the whole light. I do not deny that in certain tracts—as the Dewan President once stated in this House—there are certain tracts in South Travancore where it is fairly heavy. The question relating to those tracts can be dealt with separately as a special case. The Government are considering the various aspects of that matter and some solutions will be found out.

Now in regard to coming year, the point that was most emphasised is that there had been a failure of rains. Now Sir, that does not apply to the Divisions other than the Trivandrum Division. What I mean is that there has been sufficient rainfall in the Quilon, Kottayam, and Devicolam Divisions. The reports so far received show that the state of the crops in those divisions is at present satisfactory. But the reports which have come from South Travancore are not encouraging. I have received reports, as late, as yesterday, from the Tahsildars of Tovala, Agastisvaram and Kalkulam. They say that there are certain tracts which has been left fallow on account of lack of water in the Kodayar channel. They also report that in certain places the crops have begun to show signs of withering; but they say that if the rains which we now have to continue, it is likely that the crops would improve. They have said that applications for Karivu remissions are pouring in. And for fallow remissions also they are receiving applications. There is ample time to consider this question. The rules regarding remissions allow the applications for karivu remissions being sent up to the 10th Chingom. As regards the lands left fallow they comprise an area

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

of about 13,000 acres. Government will certainly consider the question of giving these lands remissions specially because the water in the Kodayer Reserve failed to some extent. I do not make any definite promise but I may say that Government would view that matter with sympathy.

As far as the Central and North Travancore are concerned the reports show there has been no failure of the rains.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Is the member aware that the rains were too late?

MR. K. GEORGE: So far as I have known the rains have been fairly good. Even if the rains were late they have not seriously affected the crop. So I don't think there is any need for any general remission in Central and North Travancore. I might in this connection say that the rates of land tax there are comparatively low.

Some reference was made to the rate of tax in Kuttanad. From the settlement records it can be seen that Kuttanad is one of the areas where the rate of tax is the lowest.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know the rate obtained in Kuttanad?

MR. K. GEORGE: It is generally taxed at the 12th or the 13th tharam. But as regards the taxation in the Nanjinad, the average tax on wet lands is Rs. 12 per acre and not Rs. 20 as was stated by Mr. Sivathanu Pillai.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: One question, Sir.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. The honourable member is not expected to answer when questions are put from more than one member unless he wishes to yield his place.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Sir, a word of personal explanation. I challenge the statement of the Revenue Commissioner.

PRESIDENT: That is not a personal explanation.

MR. K. GEORGE: Sir, what I stated was from the proceedings of Government.

PRESIDENT: You need not take up that challenge.

MR. K. GEORGE: The rate tax in Nanjinad on wet lands ranges from ¼ of a rupee to 17 rupees per acre for single crop and 50 per cent more for double crops. Firstly in regard to Nanjinad I should like the House to know one thing more. The rate of tax in Nanjinad is 4 per cent less in the Thovala and Agastiswaram taluks than the rate which obtained during the pre-settlement days and 2 per cent less in Eraniel taluk. What I want to say is that the present high rates was not imposed at the settlement. They were high even before.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORATHARAKAN: കളങ്ങളിലെ വെള്ളം ഉപയോഗിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കാത്തവക്ക് കരം ഇളവുചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുമോ?

PRESIDENT: I thought the honourable member has already spoken.

MR. K. GEORGE: I din't hear the honourable member, Sir.

PRESIDENT: The Revenue Commissioner says that he suffers the disadvantage of not having heard the honourable member. The honourable member may repeat his question.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORATHARAKAN: കളങ്ങളം നന്നാക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള ചെലവ് അതിലെ വെള്ളം ഉപയോഗപ്പെടുത്തുന്ന വസ്തുടമസ്ഥന്മാരിൽനിന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ഈടാക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. അങ്ങനെയുള്ള കളങ്ങളിലെ വെള്ളം ഉപയോഗിക്കാത്ത വസ്തുടമസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ കരം ഇളവുചെയ്യുന്നതാൻ സാധിക്കുമോ?

MR. K. GEORGE: Sir, his question is whether Government are recovering half contributions from ryots in places where the irrigation tanks repaired by Government are not fully or partially useful to the ryots concerned and if they are not useful the contribution will be reduced. That is a specific matter which it is for the people affected to bring to the notice of Government for their investigation and orders. I have stated that 50 per cent of remission of land tax would not really be advantageous to the ryot. At the same time it would cause a heavy loss to the Government and to the State finances which are very much needed for carrying out the various schemes which the Government have in view. But the Government are prepared to consider the case of Nanjinad where there has been a very serious shortage of water and where there has been karivu and some of the lands have been left fallow on that account.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: May I know whether in Nanjinad alone the question of remission will be taken or the cases of the taluks like Neyyattinkara Vilavankod and Kalkulam?

The Assembly adjourned for lunch at 1·1 P. M. and re-assembled at 2 P. M. with the President in the Chair.

MR. K. GEORGE: Before we rose for lunch, I was saying that, so far as karivu and fallow remissions in South Travancore were concerned Government would view the matter sympathetically. I want to make it clear to the House that, in other parts of the State also. if it is found that, due to want of rain-fall or other causes beyond the control of the cultivators, there have been failure of crops and real hardship to the ryots, Government would look into such specific cases if brought to their notice and deal with them sympathetically. I hope, that with this assurance, the mover will find his way to withdraw his motion.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI: I may frankly admit, Sir, that my motion definitely restricts itself to a 50 per cent cut uniformly for all places.

PRESIDENT I may point out to the member that he has no right of reply. He can merely express his attitude in regard to the motion.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI: I shall just explain my position, Sir.

There are places which require full remission; there are also others which may not require 50 per cent remission. I do not think I will be justified in tying the hands of the Government to a uniform definite percentage for the whole State. Further, there is also the assurance given by the Land Revenue Commissioner. I therefore beg leave to withdraw the motion.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: I o pose the withdrawal.

The motion was put to vote and lost.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Mavelikara cum Kunnathur*): I beg to point out that before putting the motion to the vote of the House, it has to be put to the House whether leave be granted for the withdrawal of the motion.

PRESIDENT: Although you are technically correct the effect will be the same.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN: I demand a poll.

A poll was taken and the House divided as follows :—

FOR—31.

1	Mr. Kottalil P. Abraham	17	Mr. P. V. Mathai Chemparathy.
2	,, K. M. Eapen	18	,, M. G. Mathew.
3	,, D. Francis.	19	,, P. Nanoo.
4	,, Kannara Gopala Panicker	20	,, N. Narayana Kurup.
5	,, C. Jebamony Nadar	21	,, K. Narayanaperumal Nadar.
6	,, A. J. John.	22	,, K. R. Narayanan.
7	,, N. V. Joseph	23	,, G. P. Nilakanta Pillai
8	,, Joseph Vithayathil.	24	,, E. John Philipose
9	,, K. Kesavan	25	,, N. Ramakrishna Pillai
10	,, M. Kesava Panickar.	26	,, M. Ramiah Pillai
11	,, T. C. Kesava Pillai	27	,, P. J. Sebastian
12	,, K. P. Kochukora Tharakan.	28	,, A. Thanu Pillai
13	,, P. K. Kumaran.	29	,, K. T. Thomas
14	,, Thariathu Kunjithommen	30	,, E. P. Varghese
15	Sahib Bahadur P. K. Kunju	31	,, V. K. Velayudhan
16	Mr. P. Kunjukrishnan.		

NOES—37.

1	Mr. P. C. Adichan	20	Sahib Bahadur M. K. Mackar Pillai
2	Sahib Bahadur V. Chandamiah	21	Mr. K. L. Moudgill
3	Mr. S. Chattanatha Karayalar	22	,, S. Narayana Pillai
4	,, M. L. D'Cruz	23	,, R. Narayanan Namboori
5	Srimati K. Devaki Antharjanam	24	Srimati T. Narayani Amma
6	Mr. E. E. Pandarathil	25	Mr. S. Nilakanta Pillai
7	,, K. George	26	,, Kainikkara M Padmanabha Pillai
8	,, M. L. Janardana Pillai	27	,, Kayalam Parameswaran Pillai
9	,, N. John Joseph	28	,, R. Pitchu Aiyangar
10	,, K. C. Karunakaran	29	,, Codiveetil C Ramankunju
11	,, T. T. Kesavan Sastri	30	Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar
12	,, Kaviyoor K. K. Kochukunju	31	Mr. P. Sivarama Pillai
13	,, S Krishna Aiyar	32	,, M. Sivathanu Pillai
14	,, Puthupalli S. Krishna Pillai	33	,, E. Subramonia Aiyar
15	,, C. Kumara Das	34	,, G. B. E. Truscott
16	Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai	35	,, Puliyoor T. P. Velayudhan Pillai
17	Mr. K. G. Kunjukrishna Pillai	36	,, N. Velu Achary
18	,, K. Madhava Kurup	37	,, P. Vivekanandam
19	,, C. O. Madhavan		

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

NEUTRAL—I.

MR. T. M. VARGHESE.

MR. P. J. SEBASTIAN: I demand a poll.

PRESIDENT: What is called a poll has been demanded, and has been taken already. (*Laughter.*) (*A cry 'Hopeless'*)

MR. V. K. VELAYUDHAN: I heard one Member saying 'Hopeless'; is it parliamentary?

PRESIDENT: Entirely.

The motion was put to vote and lost; 31 voting for the motion, 37 against and 1 remaining neutral.

Motion No. 13.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: I beg to move the following motion :—

"To reduce the allotment of Rs. 22,313 for land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by Re. 1."

Sir, my object in tabling this motion is to discuss the desirability of abolishing the system of collecting market toll. In my speech during the general discussion of the budget I explained the necessity for the immediate abolition of the market toll. This unfortunate burden is entirely on the poorest section of the public *viz.*, the poor agriculturists who go to the markets with head-loads of agricultural produce. Sir, this system of levying tolls obtains not only in public markets but also in private markets. There are 207 public markets and 367 private markets in the State. In the year 1110 the total amount collected by way of market tolls was Rs. 87,749, and it was Rs. 85,525 in 1111. The Aralammoodu Market in the Neyyattinkara taluk was for a long time in the past being conducted as a private market, and the license fee recovered from the owner of the market was a very nominal amount. Now that market has been acquired by Government, and a sum of about Rs. 5000 is being collected annually by the municipality from this market as the result of leasing out the right of collecting market toll. This will indicate the amount of money the owners of the various private markets in the State are able to make, out of their markets. Therefore, with a view to see whether some relief could not be given at least in regard to the head-loads, I move this motion for the acceptance of the House. Of late it has become the policy of some to open and run private markets as a source of income and earning.

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI (*Meenachil* cum *Todupuzha*): In rising to support this motion, I would like to bring to the notice of the House the fact that, of all the taxes levied on the people, the market toll is the one which touches the purse of the poorest. Even the smallest

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

bundle of agricultural produce taken into a market for sale by the poor agriculturist has to pay eight cash or four cash by way of market toll. The poor agriculturist has, as we all know, to pay land tax and also water tax in some cases. He has to pay tax even on salt which is a daily necessity. Of course, this cannot be helped since the Government require money. But in any event, especially since the amount involved is comparatively small, this market toll deserves to be abolished. Considering all these aspects of the question, I have great pleasure in supporting the motion.

MR. K. GEORGE: Sir, when the Market Regulation was passed by the Legislative Council, the two main principles, which were involved in it and which were accepted and laid down by the Legislature, were (i) that the Government should take measures to control the markets and (ii) that there should be the levy of tolls from the markets. I may in the first place, submit, Sir, that the rates of toll, as has been admitted by the honourable the mover himself, are comparatively small; they vary from 2 cash per hand load to 14 chs. for a motor vehicle load. The amount recoverable for a head load is 4 cash which I dare say is cannot be considered burdensome.

The principle underlying the levy of toll is that these markets benefit only the people of the localities where they are established and that therefore they should meet the expenditure involved in maintaining the markets; the general revenues should not suffer on account of this. The House must bear in mind that sites have to be acquired for these markets, that they have to be enclosed with walls, that wells have to be dug, that stalls have to be put up in some cases and that permanent employees are necessary for looking after the sanitation of these markets. Government consider that these are purely local needs for which the local area concerned should pay. In British India, for instance, the markets are under the control of local bodies. Here also, we have Municipal Markets and I suppose the mover does not want the tolls in them to be abolished. There are also the private markets which certainly will cease to exist if all on a sudden the tolls are abolished. It will be conceded I hope, that the levy of tolls has become a necessity for the existence of these markets which serve only the locality concerned and not the State as a whole. That is the principle underlying the levy of tolls in markets; and as I said, the burden is not heavy.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: Was it not the intention of the Legislature that the tolls thus levied should be utilised for the betterment of the markets and that the tolls should be levied only to the extent necessary for that purpose? In other words, I wish to know whether it was ever meant to add these tolls to the general revenues of the State.

MR. K. GEORGE: The main object of levying tolls was the upkeep and development of markets. It is true that we have not been able to spend all the sums that we realise, on the development of the markets

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

so far. But that does not mean that in the future we are going to have the same rate of expenditure only. I may inform the House that we hope to spend more money on markets in future for their development; for the improvement of markets is one of the ways of developing our trade and improving the lot of the agriculturists. At the same time nobody will contend that if the Government can secure some revenue out of markets there is any harm in getting that revenue. It is the general public really that pays these tolls. Although the initial payment is made by the man who takes his goods to the market, in fact the toll is transferred to the person who buys. As I said it is the intention of the Government to develop their markets in the coming years.

Now, a word about the public and private markets. The honourable Mover was right when he referred to a particular market where a private person was the licensee and the Government got only the stamp fees for issuing the license. The market was subsequently handed over to the Neyyattinkara Municipality and the income which the Municipality now receives is a very large income indeed. That shows that these private licensees are making a very large profit out of the market going public and if anybody makes a profit I think it should be not the private licensees but the Government. It is a sort of tax which the private licensee levies on the market going people and if market tolls are a legitimate income to anybody it is to the Government. It is not a correct procedure to allow private licensees to make enormous profits out of the market-going public.

MR. PULIYUR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Is there any provision in the present Market Regulation prohibiting the owners of the private markets from collecting tolls?

MR. K. GEORGE: There is no prohibition, but there is also no prohibition for Government refusing to issue licenses. The licenses are issued annually. Therefore the Government are at liberty to stop the issue of licenses for markets which are not really serving the public or when there is complaint of oppression.

As regards the rate of tolls, I have pointed out that they are not burdensome because they range from 2 cash for a hand load, 4 cash for a head load, to 4 chs. for a cart load, and so on. At the same time I recognise one thing, Sir, namely, that it is rather a difficulty to the very poor people that go to the market with a hand load, say a few vegetables, to be asked to pay 2 cash, although they would be perhaps able to pay it when they return from the markets. When they go to the market it is rather difficult for them to find two cash to pay to the market toll contractor. The question whether the levy of tolls on these hand loads may not be stopped, will be carefully considered. Government have already abolished the levy of tolls on bundles of grass and fuel taken by poor people. As regards head loads I cannot say anything definite because I think there are a very large number of people who take head loads. The head loads vary in size and some head loads are

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

very large. However I am prepared to consider the question of abolishing or reducing the amount of tolls now levied on head loads also.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: Out of the rupees 85,000 odd collected in 1111 may I know the amount actually spent on the markets?

MR. K. GEORGE: We have been able to spend only about Rs. 8,100.

MR. K. P. KOCHU KORA THARAKAN: ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ഈ ടോൾ ലേലം ചെയ്തു കൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ വരുന്നയാളുകൾ നടന്നയാതിരിക്കുന്നതിനു വേണ്ട സൗകര്യങ്ങൾ ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കേണ്ടതു് ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ മുമതലയല്ലയോ. ഗവണ്മെൻറ് അങ്ങനെ ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടോ?

PRESIDENT: The honourable member wants to know whether facilities are being given by Government for people who go to the market in Perumbavur.

MR. K. GEORGE: No.

MR. K. P. KOCHU KORA THARAKAN: അല്ല. പെരുമ്പാവൂരിനെ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചാണു് ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു്. ടോൾ പിരിച്ചെടുക്കാൻ തുടങ്ങുമ്പോൾ അവിടെ വരുന്നവരുടെ സൗകര്യംകൂടി നോക്കേണ്ടതു് ആവശ്യമല്ലയോ അങ്ങനെ ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടോ?

MR. K. GEORGE: The question of providing convenience to those who go to the market is engaging the attention of Government.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: May I know whether the member is aware that the Central Agricultural Board recommended the abolition of tolls on head loads and hand loads?

MR. K. GEORGE: I have not yet got the proceeding of the Agricultural Board, Sir.

MR. PULIYUR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: In view of the assurance given by the chief Revenue Officer on behalf of the Government I beg leave to withdraw the motion.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Motions Nos. 14 to 17.

The following motions were not moved :—

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI :

14. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 22,313 for the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by Re. 1.
(To show greater leniency in the matter of collecting the arrears of agricultural loans).

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI :

15. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 22,313 for Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by Re. 1.
(To point out that the tax due on lands that have been destroyed by sea erosion along the coastal areas in Central Travancore is not being written off from time to time thereby causing loss to the tax-payer.)

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI :

16. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 22,313 for Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by Re. 1.
(To point out that the Land Revenue Department's policy in the matter of land assignment requires change on certain lines.)

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI:

17. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 15,500 for travelling allowance by Re. 5.
(For not reporting to Government of the real condition of the ryots and getting adequate relief to them.)

Motion No. 18.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: Sir, I move to reduce the allotment of Rs. 15,500 for travelling allowance by Rs. 100 to speak of the Central Irrigation Board.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. To my mind it is difficult to follow the argument, but will the honourable member tell me how this travelling allowance is going to affect the Central Irrigation Board?

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: According to a certain clause in the Irrigation Regulation the Division Peishkar should at least conduct four meetings every year in Nagercoil, but he has conducted only one meeting in 1111. It is to point this out that I have sent this motion.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. I rule the motion out of order.

Motions Nos. 19 to 21.

The following motions were not moved :—

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI:

19. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,07,554 for Division Cutcherries by Re. 1.
(To point out that the Division Peishkars are not properly discharging their duties as statutory officers especially under the Mines and Minerals Regulation and the Factories Regulation)

MR. P. NANOO:

20. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 65,960 for Tahsildars by Re. 1
(To bring to the notice of the Government the desirability of appointing a non-caste Hindu as Tahsildar in Chirayinkil taluk.)

MR. PULIYUR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI:

21. To reduce the allotment of Rs 3,29,344 for taluk Cutcherries by Re. 1.
(To impress upon the Government the necessity for establishing a Taluk Cutcherry at Chengannur with the pakuthies of the old Chengannur taluk or a sub-treasury at least.)

Motion No 22.

MR. V. K. VELAYUDHAN: Sir, I move to reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,03,128 for Proverthikars by Re. 1.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: I rise to a point of order, Sir. This cut relates only to the salary of the Proverthikars. Is it in order when the member wants to discuss the general policy?

PRESIDENT: Mr. Velayudhan, I rule that you can go on.

MR. V K. VELAYUDHAN: I move this motion to discuss the immediate necessity for making provision, especially in the ranks of the Proverthikars, for securing to all communities their due proportion of representation. The Proverthikars are a class of officers who come daily into contact with the masses. They are held in high esteem by the people and they, the Proverthikars, enjoy much influence among the masses. I may bring to the notice of the Government that these officers influenced by communal considerations and caste prejudices

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

are very often doing great harm to the people. The last election to the Legislatures has brought home to us this unwholesome influence of the Proverthikars. Government had issued strict orders to them to be neutral in the election. In the face of that declared policy of Government this class of officers, I may assure the Government, were creating all sorts of trouble among the people. Instances were many. To render real justice in the matter the only remedy, is to give appointments to all communities. It is seen that there are 405 Proverthikars. Of these I may say that there are only 3 Ezhavas. The vast majority of them belong to one community. That is the sole reason for the great influence they sway in matters of elections and other activities which concern vitally the people of the State. Well, it may be said that efficiency and competency are the guiding factors in making the appointments. I do not deny this principle. I do not want the Government to take incompetent and unqualified hands. But what I ask is,— is efficiency the birthright of one community? To my mind, it appears that there are efficient and qualified hands in all communities. The experience of Government to be gathered from the conduct of the officers from unrepresented communities is that they are comparatively more honest, possessing a strict sense of their responsibilities. That is my experience, because when they are appointed they take it as if they have been appointed to a place of position and responsibility. Therefore the argument that efficiency and competency are the guiding factors in the matter of recruitment to the public service will not hold good in this case.

What I want the Government to do immediately as a measure of great importance for public peace and public safety is that many of these proverthikars should be disbanded from revenue department and transferred to other departments and in the vacancies thus created, people from all communities should be recruited so that adequate representation may be given to the other communities. With these remarks, I move the motion.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE: Sir, I have great pleasure in supporting the motion before the House. It was fifteen years ago, in 1097, that the Government separated the Devaswom from the Revenue Department so that all communities castes and creeds may be admitted into the Revenue Department. Since then Government have also accepted the principle of communal representation. But looking at the castewar list of appointments of proverthicars I find that out of 405 proverthicars the number of Latin Catholics who have a population of 3,60,217 in the State and is the fourth community in point of population, is nil. Sir, if the Government really meant what they said, *viz.* that preference will be given to poorly represented communities, fifteen years is time enough to have appointed at least one specimen from the Latin Catholics.

MR. P. K. KUNJU: May I know whether there is any Muslim proverthicar?

MR. E. P. VARGHESE: I claim notice.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

PRESIDENT: Though the honourable member is entitled to claim notice, I thought ordinarily the Treasury Benches alone claimed notice. (*Laughter.*)

MR. E. P. VARGHESE: Sir, we who belong to the poorly represented communities in the Public Service find it necessary to bring this matter to the notice of Government. Government give us great hopes and promises. But I am constrained to say that they are very seldom fulfilled. As a protest against the Government's policy in not giving preference to poorly represented communities at least in the matter of appointments as proverthicars which is one of the lowest paid officers in the Revenue Department, I support this motion. I may also state that the post of proverthicars is considered sufficiently important as to take it away from the lower grade of recruitment according to the Public Service G. O. which was recently passed, though according to the initial salary the proverthicars fall in the lower grade. When that question was discussed in this House we were told that though the initial salary of proverthicars is only Rs 18 they are very responsible officers and that it is not proper to keep them in the lower grade and thereby give the backward communities more chances, because irresponsible persons would get those places. On this side we do not press that irresponsible persons from backward communities should be selected. As the mover of the motion said, efficient hands might be selected. Efficiency is not the monopoly of one community as it is sometimes supposed to be. With these words, I support the motion.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: Sir, I also support the motion for the very same principles as those urged by the previous speakers. I wish to bring to the notice of Government the position of Nadars who number 44 lakhs. Out of 405 proverthikars there is not even a single one from this community. Similar is the fate of the members of the S. I. U. C. I believe the same is the case of Chetties and Krishnanvagakars who also are important communities in my constituency. With these words, I support the motion.

MR. P. K. KUNJU: സർ, ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ ബലമായി പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു. വലിയ ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾ വഹിക്കുവാനുള്ള യോഗ്യത മുസ്ലീങ്ങൾക്കു ഉണ്ടെങ്കിലും അതു ലഭിക്കുവാനുള്ള ഭാഗ്യം ഇല്ലെന്നുള്ള മട്ടിലാണ് ഇന്നത്തെ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ രീതി. എന്നാൽ ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾ വാങ്ങിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള യോഗ്യത സമ്പാദിച്ചുകഴിഞ്ഞാൽ അതു് ലഭിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള സാമർത്ഥ്യം പ്രത്യേകം ഉണ്ടാകേണ്ടതായിട്ടാണിരിക്കുന്നതു്. അതിനുള്ള ആനുകൂല്യങ്ങളും പ്രത്യേകമായി സമ്പാദിക്കേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. അതേക്കുറിച്ചു ഒന്നും പറയണമെന്നു ഇപ്പോൾ ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നില്ല. ലാൻഡ് റവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ മുസ്ലീം സമുദായത്തിനു ഒട്ടുംതന്നെ പ്രാതിനിധ്യമില്ല. 800 പ്രവർത്തികാരന്മാർ ഉള്ളതിൽരണ്ടുപേർ മാത്ര

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

മേ മുസ്ലീംസമുദായത്തിൽപെട്ടവരായിട്ടുള്ള എന്നാണ് എന്റെ അറിവു. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഈ കുറവിനെ പരിഹരിക്കണമെന്നു, എനിക്കു ബല മായ അഭിപ്രായമുണ്ട്.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN (*Quilon cum Kottarakara*): Sir. I wish to bring a pertinent fact to the notice of the House in connection with the appointment of proverthicars. Recently the proverticars, who were classed under the lower division for recruitment to public service, have been removed to the intermediate division where 40 per cent. alone is allotted on lines of communal basis. If they had been left in the lower division the appointments would have come by communal turn. But since the Proverticars have now been removed to the intermediate division, the unrepresented communities are at a disadvantage. With these words I support the motion.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN : സർ, ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ ബലമായി പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു. റവന്യൂ ദേവസ്വം വിഭജനം നടന്നിട്ടു ൧൭ വർഷം കഴിഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നു. റവന്യൂ വകുപ്പിലെ ഏറ്റവും ചുമതലയും അധികാരവുമുള്ളവരായ പ്രവർത്തികാരന്മാരുടെ ഇടയിൽ അഹിന്ദുക്കളും അവർണ്ണഹിന്ദുക്കളും ഏറ്റവും തുച്ഛമായ സംഖ്യ മാത്രമേ കാണുന്നുള്ളു എന്നു പറയേണ്ടിവന്നതിൽ സങ്കടമുണ്ട്. "ഒരു ക്ലിപ്തകാലംകൊണ്ടു ഈ അസമത്വമെല്ലാം പരിഹരിക്കപ്പെടും. എട്ടു പത്തു വർഷംകൊണ്ടു അതു നീങ്ങിക്കൊള്ളും. അതു ഇപ്പോൾ ആരംഭിച്ചു കഴിഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇനി ലാൻഡ് റവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലെ സമുദായപ്രാതിനിധ്യത്തെപ്പറ്റി ആരും പ്രസംഗിക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ല." എന്നങ്ങനെയെല്ലാമാണ് റവന്യൂദേവസ്വം വിഭജനം നടന്നപ്പോൾ ശ്രീമൂലം പ്രജാസഭയിൽ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥഭാഗത്തിൽനിന്നും പറഞ്ഞിരുന്നതു്. എന്നാൽ ൧൭ കൊല്ലം കഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടും ഏകദേശം ഇരുപതോളം ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾ മാത്രമേ അഹിന്ദുക്കളും അവർണ്ണഹിന്ദുക്കളുമായുള്ളവർക്കു പാവ്വത്യകാരന്മാരുടെ ഇടയിൽ കിട്ടിയിട്ടുള്ളുവെന്നു ഇതിനുമുമ്പു ചോദിച്ചു ഒരു ചോദ്യത്തിനുകിട്ടിയ പട്ടികയിൽ നിന്നു കാണുന്നു. ഈ സഭയിൽ ചോദിച്ചിട്ടു ഇതുവരെ മറുപടി കിട്ടിയിട്ടുമില്ല. ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്കു കാലതാമസംക്കൂടാതെ പട്ടികകൾ മേശപ്പുറത്തു വച്ചിരുന്നെങ്കിൽ ഈവകകാര്യങ്ങൾ അപ്പോഴപ്പോൾ ശരിയായ കണക്കുകൾ സഹിതം ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരാൻ കഴിയുമായിരുന്നു. ൧൭൦൪ പ്രവർത്തികാരന്മാരുള്ളതിൽ ഒരേ ഒരു പ്രവർത്തികാർ മാത്രമാണ് സിറിയൻകത്തോലിക്കരിൽ ഉള്ളതു്. നായന്മാരും ഈഴവരും കഴിഞ്ഞാൽ ജനസംഖ്യകൊണ്ടു മികച്ചുനിൽക്കുന്ന ഒരു സമുദായമാണ് കത്തോലിക്കർ. സാക്ഷരത്വംകൊണ്ടാണെങ്കിൽ അവർ രാജ്യത്തു മൂന്നാമതായി നിൽക്കുന്നു. പ്രവർത്തികാരന്മാരായി നിയമിക്കുന്ന

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. Thariathu Kunjuthomman.]

വർ കർഷകരുടെ ഇടയിൽ ഇടപെടേണ്ടവരാകയാൽ ഭൂനികുതി അധികം കൊടുക്കുന്ന ക്ലാസ്സിൽനിന്നുവേണം അങ്ങനെയുള്ളവരെ നിയമിക്കുവാൻ എന്നായിരുന്നു സമുദായപ്രാതിനിധ്യം പാടില്ലെന്നു പറഞ്ഞിരുന്നവർ മുമ്പു പറഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടിരുന്നതു്. എന്നാൽ ഭൂനികുതി അധികം കൊടുക്കുന്ന സമുദായക്കാർ സിറിയൻ ക്രിസ്ത്യാനികളാണെന്നാണു് സെൻസസ്സ് റിപ്പോർട്ടിൽനിന്നും കാണുന്നതു്. അവരിൽ വലിയവിഭാഗം സിറിയൻകത്തോലിക്കരാണു്. എന്നിട്ടും ഇ ര ം ഉ പാവ്തൃകാരന്മാരിൽ ഒരേ ഒരു ആൾ മാത്രമാണു് ആ സമുദായത്തിൽനിന്നും ഉള്ളതു്. ഈവകുപ്പിലെ മറ്റുള്ള സ്ഥാനങ്ങളിലും മറ്റു വകുപ്പുകളിലും കത്തോലിക്കരുടെ സ്ഥിതി ഇതിനെക്കാൾ കഷ്ടതരമാണു്. എന്നാൽ ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലെ സ്ഥിതി മാത്രമേ ഇവിടെ ഇപ്പോൾ പറയുന്നുള്ളൂ. ഈ തോതിലാണു് നിയമനങ്ങൾ നടക്കുന്നുവെങ്കിൽ ഇനിയും ഒരു ഉ വർഷം കഴിഞ്ഞാലും അസമത്വത്തിനു ഭേദമുണ്ടാകുന്നതല്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു മേലാൽ എങ്കിലും ഈ നയം തുടരരുതെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ ഉൽബോധിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. എല്ലാ സമുദായക്കാർക്കും നീതി നടത്തണമെന്നു വിചാരിക്കുന്ന ഗവണ്മെൻറു റവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ നിയമനങ്ങൾ നടത്തുമ്പോൾ പ്രാതിനിധ്യം കൂടുതലുള്ള സമുദായക്കാരെ മാറ്റിനിറുത്തിയിട്ടു പ്രാതിനിധ്യക്കുറവുള്ള സമുദായക്കാരെ മാത്രമേ കുറേക്കാലത്തേക്കു നിയമിക്കുകയുള്ളൂ എന്നു ഒരു വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്യണം. പ്രാതിനിധ്യക്കുറവുള്ള സമുദായക്കാരിൽ യോഗ്യതയുള്ളവർ ഇല്ലാഞ്ഞിട്ടല്ലാ അവർ പിന്നോക്കം നിൽക്കേണ്ടിവരുന്നതു്. അവരെ വളരെക്കാലമായി അകറ്റി നിറുത്തിയിരിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടുമാണു്. അതിനാൽ മേലാലെങ്കിലും ഈ അസമത്വത്തെ പരിഹരിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം അവർക്കു മാത്രമേ കുറച്ചുകാലത്തേക്കു ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾ കൊടുക്കുകയുള്ളൂ എന്നു വക്കുന്നതിൽ യാതൊരുനീതിയുമില്ല. ഇതിനുമുമ്പു ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ എവിടെയെങ്കിലും ഒരൊഴിവുണ്ടായാൽ അവിടെയിരിക്കുന്ന അധികാരികൾ സ്വജനങ്ങളെയാണു് നിയമിക്കുന്നതു്. നിയമനംകഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടേ മറ്റുള്ളവർ ആസംഗതി അറിയുകതന്നെ ഉള്ളൂ. ഇപ്പോളൊരു പബ്ലിക്ക് സർവീസ് കമ്മീഷണറെനിയമിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. പക്ഷേ അദ്ദേഹത്തെക്കൊണ്ടു ഒന്നും സാധിക്കുന്നില്ല. നികുതിപിരിക്കുക പുറമ്പോക്കുകേസുകൾ എടുക്കുക വോട്ടേഴ്സ് ലിസ്റ്റുകൾ തയ്യാറാക്കുക എന്നുവേണ്ട ജനസാമാന്യത്തോടു അടുത്തിടപെടുള്ള പല പ്രധാനജോലികളും ചെയ്യുന്നതു പ്രവൃത്തികാരന്മാരാണു്. അങ്ങനെയുള്ളവരുടെ കൂട്ടത്തിൽവിവിധസമുദായക്കാരുടേയും പ്രതിനിധികൾ ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുന്നതു കാണു

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

ക്ഷമതക്കു സഹായകരമായിരിക്കും. രാജ്യത്തെ ജനങ്ങളുടെ വിവിധ താൽപര്യങ്ങളേയും ശരിയായി ഗണിച്ചു നടത്തുന്ന ഒരു ഭരണത്തിനുമാത്രമേ എഫിഷ്യൻസി ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കയുള്ളൂ. യോഗ്യന്മാരായിട്ടുള്ളവരെ സംവിധാനത്തിലേക്കു വിവിധ സമുദായങ്ങളിൽനിന്നും തിരഞ്ഞെടുത്തു നിയമിച്ചാൽ മാത്രമേ ശരിയായ കാര്യക്ഷമതയുണ്ടാകൂ. ഒന്നോ രണ്ടോ സമുദായങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നുമാത്രം നിയമനം നടത്തിയാൽ ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതിനെക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ സാമർത്ഥ്യവും പ്രാപ്തിയും ഉള്ളവരെ പല സമുദായങ്ങളിൽനിന്നും തെരഞ്ഞെടുത്താൽ കിട്ടുമെന്നാർക്കും അറിയാം. ഒരു വൃക്ഷത്തിന്റെ ഒരു ശാഖയിൽനിന്നും പഴങ്ങൾ പറിക്കുന്നതിനേക്കാൾ പല ശാഖകളിൽനിന്നും പറിക്കുന്നതാണു അധികം മുഴുത്തതും പഴുത്തതുമായ പഴങ്ങൾ കിട്ടാൻ സൌകര്യമുള്ളതു്. അതിനാൽ എഫിഷ്യൻസി ഉണ്ടാകുവാനും സുദായ സൌഹാർദ്ദം സ്ഥാപിക്കുവാനും ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നവർ വിവിധസമുദായങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നുമുള്ള നിയമനത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കയാണ് വേണ്ടതു് ഗവണ്മെന്റു അങ്ങനെതന്നെ ചെയ്യണമെന്നു് ഉൽബോധിപ്പിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു് ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു.

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN (*Vaikam cum Kottayam*) : ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു. പ്രവർത്തികാരന്മാർ ഒരു പ്രവൃത്തിയിലെ കിരീടം വക്കാത്ത ചക്രവർത്തിമാരാണെന്നു പറഞ്ഞാൽ വലിയ അബദ്ധമില്ല. ഒരു പകുതിയിൽ അവർക്കുള്ള സ്വാധീനശക്തി വളരെവലുതാണു്. അവർ വിചാരിക്കുന്നതുപോലെ മിക്കവാറും ആ പകുതിയിലെ കാര്യങ്ങൾ സാധിക്കുവാൻ അവർക്കു കഴിയും. അങ്ങനെയുള്ള പ്രവർത്തികാരന്മാർ ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരു ജാതിയിൽ ഭൂരിപക്ഷം വന്നുപോയാൽ ആ സമുദായത്തിനൊ ആ സമുദായത്തിന്റെ താല്പര്യങ്ങൾക്കൊ അവർ ചില പ്പോൾ ആയുധമായി എന്നു വന്നേക്കും. ജാതിയിൽജനിച്ചു്, ജാതിയിൽ വളർന്നു്, ജാതിയിൽ ജീവിക്കുന്ന ഈ രാജ്യത്തു് ആ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർക്കു് ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരു ജാതിചിന്ത വന്നുപോയാൽ മനുഷ്യസ്വഭാവത്തിനു അബദ്ധമില്ല. കഴിയുന്നതു് അതിനു പരിഹാരമുണ്ടാക്കുകയാണു വേണ്ടതു്. ൧൯൨൩മാണ്ടുമുതൽ ഇന്നുവരെ ആത്തിച്ചുവാത്തിച്ചു് ഈഴവർ സങ്കടങ്ങളും അപേക്ഷകളുമായി ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ സമീപിച്ചിട്ടും മൂന്നേ മൂന്നു പ്രവർത്തികാർ ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾ മാത്രമേ എന്റെ സമുദായത്തിനു കിട്ടിയിട്ടുള്ളൂ. ഈ മൂന്നുപേർതന്നെ സ്ഥിരഉദ്യോഗം വഹിക്കുന്നവരല്ല. ഒരാളെ സ്ഥിരപ്പെടുത്തുകയും ബാക്കി രണ്ടുപേരെ ഡിവിഷൻപേഷ്കാരും തഹശിൽദാരന്മാരുംകൂടി അങ്ങോട്ടും ഇങ്ങോട്ടും രാമലക്ഷ്മണന്മാരുടെ അടുക്കൽ

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

ശൂർപ്പണഖയെ അയച്ചതുപോലെ അയക്കുകയുമാണ് ചെയ്തിരിക്കുന്നത്. വോട്ടകാര്യത്തുള്ള ഇവരുടെ സ്വാധീനശക്തിയും കൃഷിവായ്പക്കും ട്ര സ്വത്തുജാമ്യബാങ്ക് ലേക്കുമുള്ള അപേക്ഷകളുടെ കാര്യങ്ങൾ വരുമ്പോഴും അവർക്കുള്ള കൈകാര്യകർതൃത്വവും സ്വാധീനവും ആലോചിക്കുമ്പോൾ എല്ലാ സമുദായക്കാരുടേയും പ്രാതിനിധ്യം ആ ഉദ്യോഗത്തിനുണ്ടായിരിക്കേണ്ടതു വളരെ ആവശ്യമാണ്. ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലെ ശമ്പളത്തിനു മാത്രം വൺൻ ഓൺ ഒരുപാ ചിലവാകുന്നുണ്ട്. എന്നാൽ അതിൽ രർവ്വരുപാമാത്രമാണ് ഈഴവസമുദായത്തിനു കിട്ടുന്നത്. രുപാക്കണക്കു പ്രവൃത്തികാരന്മാരുടെ സംഖ്യയെടുത്താൽ വാവിനേക്കാൾ കഷ്ടം പതിനാങ്ക് എന്ന മട്ടിലാകുകയേ ഉള്ളൂ. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഈ വിഷയത്തെപ്പറ്റി വളരെ ഭംഗിയായി ആലോചിച്ചു് ഒരു പരിഹാരം വരുത്തണം. ഇപ്പോൾ ധാരാളമായി ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾ വഹിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നവരും ഇക്കാര്യം ആലോചിക്കണം. എല്ലാവർക്കുംകൂടി കിട്ടാനുള്ളതു് എല്ലാവരുംകൂടി എടുത്തു എല്ലാവർക്കും നല്ലകാലം വരുത്താനായി ശ്രമിക്കേണ്ടതല്ലയോ ഭംഗി എന്നു എല്ലാവരും ആലോചിക്കണം. മൈസൂർരാജ്യത്തിൽ ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള ഒരു വിഷമഘട്ടം ഉണ്ടായി അവിടെ ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങളിലും മറ്റും അതിരറ്റ ബ്രാഹ്മണമേധാവിത്വം ഉണ്ടായ ഒരു കാലം ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നു. അതിനു പരിഹാരമായി നിയമിച്ച മില്ലർകമ്മറ്റി എന്താണു പ്രസ്താവിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതെന്നു നോക്കുക. ഒരു ക്ലിപ്തകാലത്തേക്കു് അമിതമായി ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾ വച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നവർക്ക് ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾ കൊടുക്കരുതെന്നാണ് ആ കമ്മറ്റി തീരുമാനിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു. ഇപ്പോൾ കൊച്ചിയിലും ഏതാണ്ടു് ഈ തീരുമാനത്തിലാണ് എത്തിയിരിക്കുന്നതു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു വളരെ പ്രധാനമായ ഈ സമുദായപ്രാതിനിധ്യകാര്യം എത്രയും വേഗത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു പാലിക്കണമെന്നും അവശസമുദായങ്ങളുടെ ഉദ്യോഗമാനവിഷയത്തിൽ ഇനിയും ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു ബാലികേറാമലയാക്കരുതെന്നും അഭ്യർത്ഥിച്ചുകൊണ്ടും വളരെ ശക്തിയായി ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു.

MR. M. K. MACKAR PILLAI: സാർ, ഞാനും ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു പ്രവൃത്തികാരന്മാർ ചക്രവർത്തിമാരായും മാസപ്പടിക്കാർ രാജാക്കന്മാരായും ഇരുന്ന ഒരുകാലം ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നു. അവർ അന്നു് വളരെ സമ്പാദിച്ചിരുന്നു. ഇപ്പോൾ ആ നിലയെല്ലാം പോയി. ഇപ്പോൾ പ്രവൃത്തികാരന്മാർ അർദ്ധപട്ടിണിക്കാരായും മാസപ്പടിക്കാർ മുഴുവൻപട്ടി

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

ണിക്കാരും ആണ്. എങ്കിലും അവർ ചക്രവർത്തിമാരും രാജാക്കന്മാരും ആയിരുന്നതിലുള്ള കൊതികൊണ്ടു കച്ചവടക്കാരും കൃഷിക്കാരുമായ ഞങ്ങളിൽ പലരും ആ ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾക്കു മോഹിച്ചവരുകയാണ്. ഞങ്ങളുടെ മക്കൾക്ക് വിദ്യാഭ്യാസംകഴിഞ്ഞുവന്നാൽ കച്ചവടത്തിനൊ കൃഷിക്കൊ പോകാൻ മനസ്സില്ല. സാദ്ധ്യമല്ല അതുകൊണ്ടു അവക്കു ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾ കിട്ടാതെ കഴിക്കയില്ല അതിനാൽ മഹമ്മദീയ സമുദായത്തിന്റെ തോതനുസരിച്ചു പ്രവൃത്തികാരന്മാരേയും മാസപ്പടിക്കാരേയും നിയമിക്കണം. ഇത്രമാത്രമേ എനിക്കുപറയാനുള്ളൂ.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI : Sir, after listening to one or two speeches of honourable members I have felt it my duty to point out that I am not in a position to agree with the sentiments expressed by them. Nor am I able to agree to the reasoning adopted by them on certain points.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE : May I know whether the member agrees to the facts stated there?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI : It is complained that the Proverthicars are recruited mostly from one community and that the members of other communities are not recruited as Proverthicars. I, as a member of this House, do not very well understand the real implication contained in that accusation. The proverthicars are never directly recruited from outside and much less from any community. They are persons who are promoted from the ranks of accountants. Their duties are onerous, their responsibilities are great. Their position, power, and prestige may, in the opinion of these honourable members, be a little great. For myself, I am unable to see any greatness in it. In order that transfer of registries, *thandapers* and other records relating to Land Record Maintenance may be properly kept, and the other onerous and responsible duties may be properly and efficiently discharged. It has been the policy of Government to recruit to the grade of Proverthicars, persons who have considerable experience as accountants. The recruitment is only to the accountancy grade.

For years past, and for reasons best known to all the members of this House, accountants had to be recruited from particular communities. Most of them are still in service. An accountant is able to get promotion to Proverthicar's grade only after putting in a service of 15 or 16 and sometimes 18 years. But Government in response to the cry that was made, in reponse to the public feelings expressed on the matter, have tried to make recruitment to the grade of accountants. That recruitment is gradually enabling members of all communities to come into the rank of proverthicars. I do not agree with the observations made by one honourable member that if this post is given to members of unrepresented communities they will consider it as a very great privilege and would therefore properly discharge thier duties and the fact that it is being kept in the hands of members of other communities

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. Puthupalli S. Krishn Pillai.]

either enables them to be corrupt or to misuse their powers. For myself, Sir I wish to point out to the honourable member the fate of a few of those who have been recruited from the unrepresented communities. They had to be sent out of the department for corruption, for embezzlement and misappropriation of Government money. It is not a vice peculiar to any one community. It is a vice of the individual. Members of all communities find a place in the Central Jail. Members of all communities are hauled up before Magistrates courts. I do not see the justice of the statement made by one honourable member that if members of that particular community is appointed as Proverthicars they would receive it with gratitude. He also said that that community will discharge the work entrusted to them with greater fidility and honesty. It is too broad to be true.

It was pointed out by some that they experienced difficulties during the time of the election. The implication contained therein is that during the elections Proverthicars representing the communities to which they belonged had been interfering in elections to the detrimet of other communities. If that is a fact, I can with equal certainty affirm that persons recruited from other communities as public accountants and proverthicars have been favouring members of their own community. That does not solve the problem. My submission therefore is, if defects are found in individuals, they are the defects of individuals and not of a community. For that reason I beg to submit that no member of any community can claim to have a larger representation. I can very well understand the fact that the Latin Catholics, Syrian Catholics, Hindu Nadars and Ezhavas do want to get a larger representation.

MR. P. K. KUNJU: What about Mahomedans, please?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: I include Mahomedans also. No one contests that proposition. What is the difficulty in getting into the public service? In the first place, we cannot forget the existing posts and those in service If their argument is that a good number of these officers should be sent out at once and a wholesale fresh recruitment must be made from the communities which are not till now represented properly, I would certainly protest against that statement. It is inconsistent with expediency and propriety and efficiency of public service. I believe the Government have considered this question and passed proper rules. To complain at once and to agitate for further speed in recruitment, is to say the least, revolutionary. It is inconsistent with welfare of the State.

In regard to the complaint that certain under-hand methods were resorted to for the purpose of defeating their claims, a pointed reference was made by my friend Mr. Narayanan. He said that two honourable and respected members of his community were treated as *Surpanakas* by the Dewan Peishkar and Tahsildar.

PRESIDENT: I suppose their noses are intact.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: The member must thank himself that their noses are still intact. If they went on a mission similar to the one adopted by *Surpanaka*, I think it was but proper that they received the treatment accorded to the *Surpanaka* of *Ramayana* fame. We will leave aside that point. The Government have already adopted certain rules and the so-called over represented communities have to some extent acquiesced in it. On the assurance that it is a tentative measure, the honourable members who are representing those aggrieved communities would very well give the Government a chance just as other communities who are put to disadvantage by these rules have not objected to it. Why not a chance be given for working out the rules? If after the course of three years, the system is found to be defective, the system has not achieved results as anticipated by the honourable members, it will be time then to complain. Sir, from the various motions now tabled for discussion, from the various questions sent up for answers I find a large number of them centre round this question. Therefore I beg to sub mit that, on point of principle, especially with reference to this matter of appointment of proverthicars, I oppose the motion.

MR. D. FRANCIS: ஸர், இந்தப்பிரமேயத்தை நான் பலமாய் ஆமோதிக்கிறேன். தென் திருவிதாங்கூர் லத்தீன் கிறஸ்துவக்களுக்கு இந்த ஜோலி கொடுக்கப்படுவதில்லை. பகுதி அக்கவுண்டன்று முதலான ஜோலிகளும் இவர்களுக்குக்கொடுத்ததாகத் தெரியவில்லை. பகுதி பியோன் ஜோலியும் இவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கப்படுவதில்லை. ஒரு வஸ்துவுக்கு போக்குவரவு செய்யவேணுமானால், ஒருகாலத்தும் அது முடிவுக்கு வருவதில்லை. அது எனக்கு எப்படித் தெரியவருமென்றால்—நான் கல்குளம்—விளவங்கோடு தொகுதியில் ஸ்தானார்த்தியாய் இருக்கும்போது சில ரோமங்களில் போய் பார்த்ததில் ஒரு ரூபாய்க்கு மேல் கம் கொடுக்கிறவர்களாய் 100 பேர்கள் இருந்தால் 50 பேர்களுடைய பேர்கள்தான் வோட்டர்களுடைய லிஸ்டில் காணும். சேஷம் 50 பேர்களுடைய பேயர்கள் காணாது. ஏன் இந்த ஜோலி சரியாய் செய்வதில்லை என்று கேட்டால், எங்களுக்கு சமயமில்லை என்று சொல்கிறார்கள். ஒவ்வொரு போக்குவரவு(Transfer of Registry)க்கும் 10 ரூபாய் கொடுத்தால் தான் போக்குவரவு செய்யமுடியுமாம்.

PRESIDENT: Did the honourable member bring that circumstance to the notice of Government?

MR. D. FRANCIS: I did not do it then. ஆனால் இதைப்பற்றி பகுதிக்கச்சேரிக்குப் போய் சொல்லியிருக்கிறேன். ஆனால் நடப்புக்கு வரவில்லை. அதனால் எல்லா சமுதாயக்காரர்களுக்கும் பகுதிக்கச்சேரிகளில் இந்த ஜோலி கொடுத்தால் இந்தமாதிரி குழப்பம் வராது. பொதுவாக அந்தந்த சமுதாயத்திலுள்ளவர்கள் அந்தந்த சமுதாயத்திலுள்ளவர்களுக்குத் தான் அவசியப்படுகிற காரியங்களை செய்துகொடுக்கிறார்கள். இனி மேலாவது இந்தகுழப்பம் கடப்பில்லாமலிருக்கவென்திருவிதாங்கூரிலும், ராஜ்யத்தின் மற்றபாகங்களிலும் பிரதிநிதித்வமில்லாத பின்னேக்கமடைந்துள்ள சமுதாயங்களிலிருந்து வேண்டிய ஆள்களை பாறுலத்திபக்காரர்களாகவும் அக்கவுண்டன்றுகளாகவும் நியமிக்க வேண்டும். அதோடுகூடி நான் இந்தப்பிரமேயத்தை பலமாய் ஆமோதிக்கிறேன்.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. M. G. MATHEW (*Kartigapally* cum *Karunagapalli*): I have great pleasure to support the motion brought forward by my honourable friend Mr. V. K. Velayudhan. Proverthicars are a set of officers who have to deal with many matters. They have to attend to many functions. They have to collect taxes, to report about applications for the establishment of places of public worship and they have to effect the transfer of registries and many other responsible works which are not entrusted to the other departments. So one has to concede that the post of the Proverthicar is very important and so it is highly desirable that they should be from all the different communities. I was rather wondering at the statement made by an honourable friend here that it was not necessary to make appointments like that, because the Proverthicars may belong to any particular community and it did not matter to which community he belonged. Some years ago an agitation was started known as the "Malayali Memorial" where the complaint was that the Brahmin community was over-represented in the service and almost all the communities in Travancore joined hands in that agitation. If the principle underlying that agitation is sound, then certainly any protest against that principle by any member of those communities who joined hands in that agitation, certainly will be out of place. If the principle that appointments to the public service should be made from people of different communities in proportion to their number, was one advocated by them, then that principle has to hold good at all times as far as that community is concerned. This principle has been accepted by the Government of India also. They have laid down rules for the proper representation of the different communities and minorities. A lot of agitation took place in British India and the principle was very well accepted in British India and there is no reason why Travancore also ought not accept that principle.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: What is the specific suggestion that the member would make in support of the proposition? I wish to know if there is one.

PRESIDENT: The honourable member may answer if he chooses.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: Sir, the Public Service Commissioner has been appointed after orders issued by the Government in regard to the much agitated question of communal representation. The G. O. on that matter, was very well received by the communities that agitated for more representation. Now here is a specific matter namely the recruitment of Proverthikars. I have not been able to hear anything by way of a specific workable suggestion by any of the members that put forward this claim. As has been observed this is a department where the position of the Proverthicars is, one of responsibility and they cannot be appointed unless they are competent to discharge the manifold functions devolving on them. In the case of direct recruitment, the matter, I take, it is in the hands of the Public Service Commissioner, and if the arrangements according to the rules passed by the Government is satisfactory, I fail to see how objection can be taken to this specific matter alone in this manner. I do not know exctly the practice that is obtaining at present, whether any direct appointment is made as Proverthicars. In that case there will be difficulty. It will be inequitable and unjust that men with the same qualification should be

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

appointed some as Proverthicars and others as accountants. In case Proverthicars are to be recruited directly, a superior type of men will have to be put in and special rules will have to be made for that purpose. Some experience of revenue work and knowledge of rules relating thereto are necessary to enable one to be a good Proverthicar.

MR. E. P. VARUGHESE: May I know whether this cannot be effected by chaning the Public Service Recruitment Rules so that the Proverthicars will come in the lower grade. Then the rotation will come in.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI : It is a different matter whether the Proverthicars will come in the lower grade or the higher grade. Whether they should be appointed directly or by promotion or in both ways is a matter for the Department to consider, and I wish to hear the Land Revenue Commissioner on that matter. If there is serious difficulty for direct recruitment, then considering the responsibility attached to the post, I should be loath to ask for direct recruitment. If the work could be satisfactorily done by men who are recruited directly as Proverthicars then the question has to be considered. In case Proverthicars are to be appointed by promotion, the ordinary rules ought to be followed. We cannot promote a junior man merely because be belongs to a particular community. That should never be resorted to. Taking the view most favourable to those that demand change in the existing system of recruitment Government may consider the recruitment of a certain proportion directly. That question itself will depend upon the view of the department and the Government with regard to the availability of getting sufficiently qualified men to be recruited in the first instance as Proverthicars.

I wish to refer to one other matter. It has been pointed out that the Nair Proverthicar favours Nairs, the Brahmin Proverthicar favours Brahmins and the Christian Proverthicar the Christians. Naturally it follows that in case Proverthicars from other communities are appointed they would favour members of their community. That is a very unfortunate state of affairs. Because this principle of communal representation has been adopted by Government, the service as a whole has deteriorated in reference to the question of communalism. That is a fact which we have to reckon. One who looks at this question can view it only with alarm because in course of time even the judiciary I am afraid, will be affected by communal considerations. When a man from the Ezhava, Christian or Muhammadan community is appointed a judicial officer naturally he thinks he has to serve the interest of the Ezhava, Christian or Muhammadan community as the case may be. I would urge upon the attention of the Government the desirability of eschewing the communal considerations in the matter of recruitments and appointments. Probably, it is too late in the day to bring forward such a suggestion. But let us, as far as possible, try to eschew this communal mentality from the officers at least; I would urge that all responsible officers in the Revenue Department should see to it that in whatever posts or places they may be, communalism is not given the best chance of asserting itself, in respect of the work they or their subordinates have to do. The Proverthicar to whatever community he may belong ought to deal and ought to be made to deal with all persons of all communities alike. In this connection I may sound a

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. A. Thanu Pillai.]

note of warning. We have reached a stage at which even the higher officers view things more or less communally. Government should earnestly try to put down communalism whenever it tries to creep in. I oppose the motion.

MR. K. T. THOMAS (*Tiruvalla*): The motion before the House is regarding the recruitment to the cadre of Proverthicars. The Revenue Devaswom separation, sixteen years back, was with the avowed object of throwing open ranks in the Land Revenue Department to communities that were not represented in it. Fifteen years have passed by and if one legitimately calculates the number of vacancies as being 5 per cent. of the total number of appointments, you might have at least 20 cases of vacancies in the cadre of Proverthicars in one year and, if after 15 years when probably we have had at least 300 vacancies in all these unrepresented communities for whose benefit avowedly the Department was thrown open had not been able to procure anything more than 10 per cent. of their strength, it is really strange to comprehend how many generations have to go by before these communities can get adequate representation in this Department. On this matter how far those communities to which this Department was closed feel is clear from the fact that a good deal of discussion ranged round this motion in the discussions of the Public Service Recruitment Committee which was appointed by Government in 1931. I find from a persual of that report that almost every member had something very keen to speak about this particular grade of appointment. Almost every dissenting minute is teeming with illustrations of the keen feeling entertained by the persons who served on the Committee. I find at page 45 of that report that a resolution was moved that 50 per cent of the vacancies may be treated as vacancies to which direct recruitment may be made. That resolution appears to have been carried in that committee. Subsequent to that, the Public Service Commissioner was appointed. From the Public Service Recruitment Manual I gather that direct recruitment to the grade of Proverthicars is contemplated.—The Honourable member Mr. Thanu Pillai observed that the Public Service Recruitment G. O., for all that he knew, was very well received. I take advantage of this occasion to correct my learned friend and say that this particular matter was the subject of resolutions in more meetings than one and forwarded to Government. A memorandum on the subject was also submitted by the leader of the party which I have the honour to belong. So it cannot possibly be argued that the Public Service Recruitment G. O. was well received so far as this particular grade of appointments is concerned.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: Sir, a word of personal explanation.

PRESIDENT: Does the honourable member yield?

MR. K. T. THOMAS: No, I do not yield. The rules, as published in the Public Service Recruitment Manual, show that qualifications are prescribed for appointments to the cadre of Proverthicars.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI. Sir, I wish to know...

PRESIDENT: The honourable member does not yield his place.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. K. T. THOMAS: Coming as it does within the four walls of the rules laid down by the Public Service Recruitment Rules, I do not find how representation could be denied to these communities. The only question is whether direct recruitment may be done or not. When dealing with this matter I wish to draw the attention of the House to the fact that the transposition of this grade from the lower division to the intermediate was a matter of agitation and a good deal of comment from those communities who claimed representation in that department. This transposition can be explained only on the basis that the grade of proverthicars should remain closed to certain communities.

The motion has ben opposed on the ground that the present condition is due to historical causes. But history has not undergone any change though policy has been ostensibly changed. Another ground urged is that it is argued that the claim gives scope for a good deal of communal bias and it should be eschewed forthwith. Communal partiality in officers if alleged, is based on the experience of those to whom representation has been denied for ages. It is an evil rampant in our service and the evil can be remedied only by granting equal opportunities to all the communities.

Is it after all a wonder that recruitment is claimed in the cadre of Proverthicars? More than any other officer he comes in contact with the villager. He has to be approached in relation to application for mutation of names. He controls the general elections and persons who have had experience of elections knows full well what part the proverthicars can play. Even in the matter of elections he is to be reckoned with.

Therefore I submit that the claim for recruitment to the grade of proverthicars should be taken special note of by Government. Effective steps should be taken to remedy the inequality that prevails in the matter of representation of the under-represented communities in the grade of Proverthicars.

PRESIDENT: Mr Thanu Pillai who has unsuccessfully stood up more than once is at liberty to make any personal statement.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: Sir, I stated that the argumenat made by the Government in regard to—

PRESIDENT: I am giving the honourable member permission only to make any personal explanation.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: Sir, I make that statement on the basis of the great praise given to the then Head of the Administration.

PRESIDENT: That is not a personal explanation.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI: Sir, I hasten to cry halt to this discussion.

PRESIDENT: The honourable member is rather late in hastening.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI: Sir, I have got two ready-made solutions for a settlement of the dispute. One solution is to import to this country Irish men as Proverthicars because they are supposed to be persons of keen impulse and who are more alive under such changing conditions of life. The Irish men may be safely and trustworthily be entrusted with the duties of Proverthicars. Then I think there will be no clamour for communal representation for that post.

PRESIDENT: Does the honourable member refer to Northern Ireland or Southern Ireland?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI: Sir, I refer to Ulster. The second solution is this. I would invite the honourable members of this House to sit in a Round Table Conference and take stock of all the officers in the State. Proverthicars, accountants and duffadars and even the Dewan should be included. Let them all be taken into account and find out by means of arithmetic the whole sum of money that is alloted for the expenditure to maintain them. There is one opinion that this must be distributed on population basis. But I am of the opinion that the safest method is to distribute it in a taluk-war system.

PRESIDENT: The honourable member's scheme has not much bearing upon communal representation in the rank of Proverthikars in the Land Revenue Department.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI: Sir, I have known many members already asked by means of interpellation as to how many people have been given jobs in the department from particular taluks. As a matter of fact I am at my wits end as to how to proceed with this discussion. Considering the remarks of the honourable members the question does not seem to be easy to be settled according to the whims and fancies of individuals let alone communities. This reminds me of a story which took place years back. In those times Vellalas were particularly appointed as Melezhuthupillays, Kanakkupillays and treasury accountants of the Government. I have heard it said from my grandfather that a young Malayalam man went over to him for a job. I don't know whether he was a Christian or an Ezhava or a Brahmin or a Nayar. He asked him "look here, do you know anything of accountancy". The young man answered that he knew something. Then he asked him to repeat the formulas of accountancy relating to Mahani, Mundani and Arakal, Ara-Mahani etc. The young man did not know that but grew nervous and began to tremble. He returned disappointed and told his wife that the Mundani, Mahani, etc., seem to be a recipe for a purgative. That was the state of affairs in those days with regard to the selection of officers for particular jobs. The Vellalas are here and the jobs are not for them. What I want to impress upon the House is that though communal representation may be good for a certain community it is not desirable for efficient administration. Anyhow I do not approve the suggestion made from the other side that recruitment should be always done with communal representation on a population basis. If it is resorted to, *i. e.*, apportioning appointments on the Nayar, Christian Ezhava, Vellala, Muslim basis without looking to the efficiency I cannot but throw up my hands and cry aloud "Oh! Temperra, Oh! Morres, when will this end? If not in every department there will be disatisfaction always with regard to recruitment of officers. The whole thing will move in a vicious circle. Departments will function only as a machinery to meet out satisfaction to communal clamour only and not limbs of the machinery of the Government to function as such. If representation on denomination basis is unavoidable, I prefer taluk representatoin to communal representation *i, e.*, on the amount of revenue each taluk gives to the State. I know complaints on communal basis have always arisen with regard to officers for the mere fault that they belong to other community as distinguished from the complainant's. There will be no end to it. Sir, the effect of this method

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

is demoralising to an extent that I cannot think of at present. I appeal to the members of this House to stop short of this, to end the communal wrangling so that we may not become the laughing stock of people outside. Let us have confidence of each other. As Mr. A. Thanu Pillai pointed out, if a Mahomadan is appointed because he is a Mahomedan, naturally he will always be inclined to be partial to his community. Certainly, that is not desirable at all. Yesterday, my friend Mr. Makkar Pillai, in his own beautiful, effective, humorous way said that his experiences have been the same in this respect. He told us how an Excise Inspector did not take any action against a smuggler because he happened to belong to his own community. Sir, if that is to be encouraged by this House, where I ask, are we drifting? Sir, if recruitment is to be made on the basis of the strength of the various communities, I can argue with equal force that the contribution to the treasury must form the basis for recruitment to public service. My friend Mr. Kunjithommen has been talking of Roman Catholics. Sir, I have come across thousands of Roman Catholics in my locality. They are all very poor and man forsaken folks and, so far as I can see, do not stand to gain anything by Mr. Kunjithommen or any other Catholic being appointed as a High Court Judge for instance, except it be that it is good for him and family.

MR. M. KESAVA PANICKAR (*Neyyattinkara* cum *Trivandrum*): Has not the principle of communal representation been accepted by the Government?

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: I condemn much that course of action taken by the Government; they have done it out of sheer cowardice; and they are now feeling the effect of not ending the trouble in any future. Viciousness is rotating.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMEN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): മെമ്പർ ഉൾപ്പെട്ട സമുദായത്തിന്റെ അതിന്റെ ജനസംഖ്യയിൽ കവിഞ്ഞ പ്രാതിനിധ്യം ഇപ്പോൾ ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലില്ലേ?

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: ഇല്ലാ. എന്നാലും അങ്ങിനെ വേണ്ടെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ പറയുന്നത്.

PRESIDENT: Honourable members may be polyglot outside; but here, they should choose their language.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Sir, as a matter of fact I do believe that the Government accepted the principle of communal representation, and yielded to the agitation for it, out of sheer cowardice. But, I do not think they have accepted it in its entirety; they have done so only with some reservations. Sir, I do not think any civilised Government will accept the position that recruitment to public service should be made on the communal basis dovecotted with population. With these words, I have the greatest displeasure to support the motion.

MR. P KUNJUKRISHNAN: Does the member suggest that unrepresented communities who form the majority of the population should not get their due share of representation in the various branches of the public service?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: I do maintain that position. The point is.....

PRESIDENT: Having maintained his position, the honourable Member will kindly resume his seat.

MR. K. G. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI: Sir, it is with a sense of very great responsibility that I rise to speak on this motion. I belong to that community which is now taking the blame upon its shoulders for what I honestly believe is a historical fact. As the motion is worded, I for one cannot accept it. But I want to submit for the consideration of the Government as well as of everybody concerned that, for the sake of the well-being of the country, this vicious thing which has eaten into the very vitals of the public of Travancore should be got rid of. There is no harm in satisfying the communities that feel aggrieved. But certainly the principle of communal representation should not be accepted. The reason is this. The argument advanced in support of communalism is that particular officers belonging to a particular community are corrupt and are partial to their community and are not able to maintain the high standard expected of them in the discharge of the duties entrusted to them, and that therefore opportunities should be afforded also to members of the other communities to be corrupt and to be partial to the same extent and in the same manner. One of the honourable members submitted to the House that, during the last election, a large number of proverthicars misbehaved. I submit, Sir, that, on the spot, summarily, they should have been dismissed; Government should have immediately taken the matter on hand, and, without showing any mercy should have packed them bag and baggage. That would have set a very salutory example. Instead of that, why should the feeling be encouraged in the people that if there had been more proverthicars of their own community they too would have been able to get undue preferences? That, I submit, is nothing but more and more injection of the venom in the minds of the public.

I am aware, Sir, that I am likely to be misunderstood. It may be said by the members of the communities that are aggrieved that after all I argue like this, because my community now has got the advantage. Sir, in all sincerity, in all earnestness, I appeal to the all sections of the House to put an end to this cry for the recognition of the principle of the communal representation. By all means, divise ways and means to recruit more and more from the communities who are aggrieved. After all that is not going to affect efficiency. In regard to the comparatively lowpaid appointments, efficiency is nothing else except sincerity and honesty of purpose and willingness to serve. These, I submit, are available in plenty in every one of the communities in the State. (*Hear, hear.*) My only submission is that, while there is absolutely no objection to recruiting more and more from the aggrieved communities whenever opportunities arise, pray, let it not be done on the wrong basis of communal representation. What these communities want, give them; but let it not be on the vicious, false and totally untenable communal basis. If there are Ezhavas available, appoint them; if there are Mahomedans available in large numbers, recruit them. Let us have communal harmony Only let it not be understood that a person is

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

recruited to public service merely because he happens to belong to a particular community; because, that will lead to further corruption.

Sir, I fully sympathise with the communities that feel aggrieved. I am sorry I cannot support the motion as it is.

MR. N. V. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Todupuzha*): Sir, that there are more Proverthicars from one or two communities as compared with the other communities is a fact. I admit that it is not the fault of those communities. Nor was it the fault of the Government. Certainly, I do admit. It is mainly due to historical reasons. But, Sir, it cannot be denied that there are in Travancore different communities separated into water-tight compartments. It cannot also be denied that there is heart-burning on the part of certain communities which now have only very little representation in the public service. They have received education during the last hundred years and naturally aspire to get into public service in larger numbers than before. The question naturally arises how to satisfy them. It is not our case that every Nayar officer is corrupt, nor that every Christian or Ezhava or Muslim officer is honest. In every community, there is a certain percentage of rogues. I would go to the extent of saying that it is often the result of the climatic and economic condition of the country. I would also say that it is only natural that every officer tries to show some favour to the members of his own community. A Christian officer may favour a Christian and a Nayar officer a Nayar. Where is the practical solution, Sir? To me it seems that the solution lies in proper, equitable adjustment. Keep up the balance; that is what I would suggest as a practical solution. If there is corruption, if the benefits of corruption are now available to one section of the people, let the others also get the same advantage. (*Laughter*).

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI: Does the member want to encourage corruption?

MR. N. V. JOSEPH: Certainly not; I am sorry my friend has failed to understand my point. Sir, every department of Government is composed of officers of various grades. If there is the Police Constable there is the Head Constable above him to check and above him there is the Inspector of Police. Throughout, you have a system of checks and counter-checks. That is practical administration. We do not say that, because all Constables belong to the Government service, they are all honest. Take the case of the Inspectors themselves. They have the A. S. Ps. above them. Even in regard to the Government, there is the Legislature to check them. In this practical world, Sir, we do require checks and counter-checks since every one has got his own limitations. That is the reason why, merely as a practical way out of the difficulty I suggest that equal opportunities should be given to all the communities in the State.

Sir, in regard to these Proverthikars, they are the people who actually come in touch with the masses. That is the reason for the present motion. Sir, agitations on communal grounds are not new in Travancore. We have had enough of them and we are accustomed to

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr, N. V. Joseph.]

listening to the various attacks and arguments against communal representation. We have become thick-skinned now against those attacks. Even in regard to this Legislature, the agitation was carried on ; and the result of such agitation could be gathered by counting the heads in this Hall. We are quite prepared to bear all kinds of attacks against our position. Still, we know where we should be. The real difficulty is how to solve the problem. As my friend Mr. Thanu Pillai said there must be some practical solution for the problem. As one of my friends pointed out, after the Devaswom separation, during the last fifteen years, the Government have been earnestly attempting to recruit into the public service more and more from the inadequately represented communities; but in spite of such earnest attempts it has not been possible for the Government to achieve the result. I do realise. There is real difficulty in the matter. But let us put our heads together and solve it. In spite of the Public Service Commissioner and his Rules, there is very little improvment of the position. Of course, we are asked to put forth suggestions. Even in regard to the recent Legislative Reforms, Government had been asking us to throw out our suggestions. After all, Sir, we did get at a solution. I appeal to the Government, to the Legislature and to all level-headed men in Travancore to find out a proper solution of the problem in regard to the public service also. Let us put our heads together and find out a solution. That is all that the motion seeks. It is a fact that, out of the 500 Proverthikars in the State, there are only very few belonging to certain communities. That is the position. It has to be altered. I was a Police Officer myself and I have enough experience of these matters ; and I again repeat that in every community there are rogues. That is my sincere view.

I sincerely appeal to all my friends in this House not to take it lightly. Well, concede to us some intelligence, concede to us some good nature. Do you take me for a fool ? Am I to concede that ? I have got intelligence enough to understand. Here, look at these friends. Have they not patriotism ? Are they all fools? Prejudice is a fact. Bias is a fact. And no practical statesman can afford to ignore a fact. That is why we press this question for your sympathetic consideration. Other communities may oppose us. They may outvote us. Let them do as they like. We are ready to suffer. But just to get on well, to have some mutual understanding and to work for the good of the country let us solve this question. With these few words I support the motion.

MR. A. J. JOHN : Sir, I also support the motion. For the last fifteen years we have been bringing this matter to the attention of Government and on all those occasions the Government used to say that the matter will receive favourable consideration. But I am sorry to say that till now the situation has not improved to any appreciable extent. The chief objection raised by an Honourable member from the other side is that it is not possible to recruit Proverthikars directly. But according to me that statement is not correct. In the Public Service Recruitment Manual the qualifications for a Proverthikar are given at

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

page 74. Of these (1) and (2) are the general and the Travancore Lower Survey Tests and (3) Travancore Village Officer's test. These are the qualifications necessary under Public Service Recruitment Rules. There is also the provision that the appointment need not be made by direct recruitment but may be made by promotion or transfer. So under the Recruitment Rules it is not compulsory to recruit Proverthikars from Accountants. Proverthikars may be recruited from outside also provided they possess the minimum qualification. So my submission is that the chief objection raised by the other side falls to the ground on a reference to the Recruitment Rules.

Then my submission is that the Recruitment Rules have been modified on many occasions. I wanted to get the information from the Chief Secretary by means of a question and the Chief Secretary has been good enough to refer me to the Government Gazette. My submission is that when the G. O. was published it was stated that in the case of acting men three years' acting service will be counted as a claim. If my information is correct, the G. O. has been amended and acting men who have got even one year's acting service were treated as having some claim for appointments. So my submission is that the only solution lies in recruiting Proverthikars directly from all communities. With these words I support the motion.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI : സർ, പ്രവൃത്തികാരുടെ ശമ്പളക്രമീകരണത്തിനെ കരുതിയിട്ടോ ഉദ്യോഗത്തിന്റെ വലിപ്പത്തെ കരുതിയിട്ടോ അല്ലാ പ്രവൃത്തികാരുടെ ഉദ്യോഗം എല്ലാസമുദായങ്ങൾക്കുമായി വീതിച്ചു കിട്ടണമെന്നു വാദിക്കുന്നതെന്നാണു ഉപക്ഷേപംകൊണ്ടുവന്ന ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെംബർ പറഞ്ഞതു്.

റവന്യൂ ദേവസ്വവിഭാഗങ്ങൾകഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടു ഇപ്പോൾ പതിനഞ്ചു് വർഷമേ ആയിട്ടുള്ളൂ. ഗവണ്മെൻറുസർവീസിൽ നിന്നും പെൻഷൻ വാങ്ങിക്കുന്നതിനു ഒരു നിശ്ചിതകാലാവധിയുണ്ടു്. ആ കാലാവധി ഈ പതിനഞ്ചുകൊല്ലത്തിനകം തീരാവുന്നതുമല്ല. അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള കാലാവധിതീരുന്ന അവസരത്തിൽ ഇന്നത്തെ ആക്ടിംഗ് നിയമനത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു ഞാൻ അറിഞ്ഞിടത്തോളം തീർച്ചയായും നായന്മാരല്ലാത്ത സമുദായക്കാരായിരിക്കും അധികവും ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ കാണപ്പെടുന്നതു്. സമുദായ പ്രാതിനിധ്യത്തെസംബന്ധിച്ചു ഏറിയൊരുകാലമായി നിയമസഭയിലും പഴയ ശ്രീമൂലം പ്രജാസഭയിലും ശക്തിയായ വാദപ്രതിവാദം നടത്തുകയുണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നുള്ളതു് സമ്മതിക്കാം. ഗവണ്മെൻറു ചില പ്രത്യേക സമുദായങ്ങൾക്കു ഒന്നും ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതല്ല. മുമ്പിനാലെ ഓരോ ജാതിക്കാരുടേയും തൊഴിൽ ക്രമപ്രകാരം അപ്രകാരം നടന്നുവന്നതാണു്. അതിലേക്കു മറു സമുദായക്കാരെ കുറച്ചെടുത്തേണ്ടതില്ല. സചിവോത്തമൻ സർ. സി. പി. രാമസ്വാമിഅയ്യരവർകളും സർവകലാ

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. T. C. Kesava Pillai.]

ശാലാപ്രസ്ഥാനം നടപ്പിലാക്കുന്ന അവസരത്തിൽ പനയിൽ കയറുന്നതി നും തെങ്ങു ചെത്തുന്നതിനും വള്ളം ഊന്നുന്നതിനും കൊല്ലപ്പണി ആശാരി പ്പണിമുതലായി തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ ജനങ്ങൾ അനുകരിച്ചുവരുന്ന തൊഴി ലുകൾ ചെയ്യാനും ആളുകൾ ധാരാളം ഉടനടി അഭ്യസിച്ചുതുടങ്ങുമെങ്കിലും അങ്ങിനെ ഒരു പരിതസ്ഥിതിയിൽ രാജ്യം എത്തുന്നതിനു കുറെ കാലതാ മസം വേണ്ടിവന്നേക്കും. അതിനുമുമ്പു ഇത്ര ദ്രുതഗതിയിൽ ആവേശ ത്തോടുകൂടി അഭിപ്രായംപറയുന്നതു് നമ്മുടെ ബുദ്ധിശൂന്യതയാണെന്നു പറയാതെ തരമില്ല. പൂജാവൃത്തിയിൽ കാലയാപനംചെയ്തു വരുന്ന മലയാളബ്രാഹ്മണരിൽ ഒരു പ്രവർത്തികാരനോ ഡാക്ടറോ ഉണ്ടോ എന്നു നോക്കിയാൽ ആർക്കും എളുപ്പത്തിൽ കണ്ടുപിടിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കയില്ല.

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN : മലയാളി മെമ്മോറിയലിനെപ്പറ്റി വല്ലതും അറിയാമോ?

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: ഞാൻ അന്നു ഇതുയൊന്നും മിണ്ടുക്കനായില്ല. നായന്മാർ, നാഞ്ചിനാട്ടു വെള്ളാളർ തുടങ്ങി സവർണ്ണർ എന്നു വിചാരിച്ചുവരുന്ന സമുദായക്കാർ പട്ടാളക്കാരായും ദേവസ്വം മരാമത്തു് ഇതു വകുപ്പുകളിലെ ജോലിക്കാരായും ക്ലർക്കുവേലക്കാരായും കാലംകഴിച്ചു വന്നു. ആ സ്ഥാപനങ്ങളെയെല്ലാം മറുജാതിക്കാർക്കും ഇപ്പോൾ ഇറ ങ്ങികൊടുത്തതുകൊണ്ടു് ഈ ആളുകളെല്ലാം മറുതൊഴിലുകൾ അഭ്യസിച്ചു വരുന്നതിനു കുറെ കാലതാമസം വേണ്ടിവരും. അതായതു ബ്രാഹ്മണനു മത്സ്യക്കച്ചവടംചെയ്യാനോ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ നായർക്കു് കള്ളുഷാപ്പുനടത്താ നോ പഠിപ്പിക്കാൻ ഒരു ഇരുപത്തഞ്ചു് സംവത്സരം കൂടി വേണം. അതുമ്പോൾ കഴിയുമ്പോൾ നമുക്കെല്ലാവർക്കും സൌകര്യമായി കഴി ഞ്ഞുകൂടാം.

MR. K. K. KOCHUKUNJU : ക്രസ്ത്യാനികൾ കള്ളുഷാപ്പു നടത്തുന്നതാ യി അറിയാമോ?

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI : അനേകംപേരുണ്ടു്.

"England expects every man to do his duty."

എന്നു പറയുന്നതുപോലെ സർവസമുദായങ്ങളും തൃപ്തിയോടുകൂടി വീക്ഷി ക്കുന്ന സചിവോത്തമൻ ബ്രഹ്മശ്രീ സർ സി. പി. രാമസ്വാമി അയ്യർ അവർകളുടേയും മിസ്റ്റർ നോക്സിന്റെയും ചുമതലയിൽ നമുക്കു ഈ സംഗ തി വിട്ടേക്കാം. വേറേ ആരേയും ചുമതലപ്പെടുത്തിയില്ലെങ്കിലും തര ക്കേടില്ല. കൃഷിക്കാരുടെ പ്രതിനിധികളെന്നനിലയിൽ അവരുടെ കഷ്ട തകൾക്കു സമാധാനംവരുത്താതെ നാം ഇങ്ങനെ കേവലം സമുദായകാര്യം പറഞ്ഞു കഴിച്ചുകൂട്ടുന്നതു് അക്ഷേപകരമായിരിക്കും.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: Sir, I support the motion.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. It is now five minutes to four and I do not know whether honourable members are aware that this demand will automatically come to a termination at half past four.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: Sir, in principle communal representation is bad, and I stoutly oppose it. But inasmuch as unrepresented communities are numerous and they number more than 30 lakhs out of 50 lakhs, communal representation on a population basis is an absolute necessity. As regards the recruitment of Proverthikars on communal basis I have stated ample reasons in my dissenting note to the Public Service Recruitment Committee. With these words I support the motion.

MR. K. GEORGE: Sir, from the number and character of speeches that have been delivered on the floor of this House on this question, it is clear that it is one about which there is a great deal of feeling. The speeches disclose the fact that the honourable Members are aware of the circumstances which have resulted in the condition that we find today. Before the year 1097 the Department of Land Revenue was linked with the Devaswom Department—or rather, all the Devaswoms in the State were under the management and control of the Land Revenue Department and as a consequence certain communities in the State could not find entrance into that department. It is as a result of this system that existed in those days that the complaint that certain communities had not sufficient representation in the grade of Proverthikars has arisen. There is no use blaming any particular community for that and I am sure that is not the intention of the speaker. The existence of these differences is due to the circumstances which prevailed in the days when the Devaswoms and the Land Revenue Department were one.

One aspect of the matter was perhaps overlooked by some speakers. The proverthikars are now not directly recruited. The practice in the department is to recruit directly to the grade of Accountants and to promote to the grade of Proverthikars those who by seniority or efficiency are deserving of that promotion.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE: In which grade are the Accountants classified – is it the lower or the intermediate grade?

MR. K. GEORGE: The proverthikars and Accountants are both included in the intermediate grade.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE: What is the Accountants' initial salary?

MR. K. GEORGE: They have got only one salary, both initial and final and that is Rs. 14.

MR. A. J. JOHN: Do the Service Recruitment Rules prevent direct recruitment?

MR. K. GEORGE: I am coming to that point. The practice at present is to recruit direct to the grade of Accountants and then to

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. K. George.]

promote those who are senior and efficient to the grade of Proverthikars. It cannot be denied that normally speaking that is the correct practice. If the members find that in the grade of Proverthikars there is a great dearth of men from the various communities they will find that there is a better proportion in the grade of Accountants and no doubt this anomaly existing in the case of Proverthikars will be set right gradually. It cannot be remedied all at once. It will take some time before a fair amount of equality among the various communities in the grade of Proverthikars can be brought about by promotion.

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN : പ്രത്യേകമായിട്ട് എത്ര അപേക്ഷകരുണ്ടെന്നോരെ എടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ടെന്ന് പറയാൻ കഴിയുമോ?

MR. K. GEORGE : The members will note that in the recruitment rules proverthikars are put in a class to which recruitment may be made either by promotion or by direct recruitment. Government intend to take advantage of this provision and take steps to introduce some rules whereby a percentage can be directly recruited. The provision for it is already there. The matter is at present engaging my attention and I am preparing a scheme for submission to Government. The Government have permitted me to submit such a scheme.

The question may be raised as to how directly recruited proverthicars would be able to meet the requirements of the department. Provision can be made in respect of that by rules regulating the qualification of proverthicars directly recruited. Provision can also be made in the rules for giving them sufficient training. They may be given training in the various branches of the work they have to attend to. Subject to rules that may be made in regard to this aspect of the matter, Government do not find any radical difficulty in allowing a certain percentage of provertikars being directly recruited. Provision will certainly have to be made for the persons so recruited being efficient and being specially trained. I think it is not necessary to say anything more about the matter at present. The rules indicate that Government have had already the idea of appointing Proverthikars partly by promotion and partly by direct recruitment, and I hope to make some recommendations to Government on this matter within a short time.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI : Is it correct to say that these proverthikars were once put in the lower grade and were afterwards put in the intermediate grade?

MR. K. GEORGE : No. From the very outset they were put in the intermediate grade.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI : May I ask whether direct recruitment will be allowed to all other communities too?

MR. K. GEORGE : That is the idea. Certain rules will be made as regards the recruitment.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. V. K. VELAYUDHAN: In view of the explanation from the Treasury Bench, I withdraw the motion.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Motion 23.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Velayudhan Pillai, you seem to be in a generous mood today.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, I move the following motion:

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,02,343 for Proverthy Cutcherry by Re. 1.

The object of this motion is to discuss the desirability of increasing the pay of the pakuthy Cutcherry employees. Sir, in the course of the discussion on the cut motion moved by Mr. Velayudhan, some of the honourable members admitted that the duties of the provertikars and accountants are very great and onerous. At the same time Mr. Mackar Pillai stated that these people are a set of half-starved subordinates.

PRESIDENT: I thought that his argument was that the half-starvation was remedied in other ways.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: May I know whether there is a demand for a rise in salary from the employees themselves?

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Certainly, yes. I am aware that all these proverthikars and accountants had jointly submitted a memorial to Government some years ago. There was a public meeting at Mavelikara convened for this purpose. Sir, is it not better to remedy the half-starvation by raising their salary than to allow them to resort to corruption and bribery for the purpose?

It is a matter of common knowledge that the salary of the pakuthy staff is too inadequate. I know that several other departments are at times obliged to function on account of the help and co-operation of the pakuthi subordinates. Drill Masters and Drawing Masters in the educational institutions get a higher salary than these very responsible pakuthi officers. I do not think it is necessary to have a lengthy argument to support the principle contained in my motion. So I submit this motion for the unanimous acceptance of the House.

MR. S. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Quilon cum Kottarakara*): Sir, I support the motion. (*Not heard.*)

PRESIDENT: The honourable member will kindly speak louder.

MR. S. NARAYANA PILLAI: On a perusal of the latest Civil List, I came to understand that peons in all departments of public service are on the grade of Rs. 9—11, whereas the peons in the proverti cutcherries are paid only Rs. 8 per mensem. I wish to point out the gross inadequacy of the salaries that are being paid to the employees in the Pakuthi Cutcherries. Several members have already stated that the duties and responsibilities devolving on the proverthikars and accountants are great. On certain occasions they are charged with very responsible duties, and they do all these satisfactorily. I therefore support the motion.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. K. GEORGE : Sir, the proposition before the House is one for which I have great sympathy. The only difficulty is that the finances of the State at present do not permit our sanctioning any substantial increase of salaries to these officers. An increase of Rs. 2 to the Proverthikars might mean an additional expenditure of about Rs. 11,000 a year. It would be more than that if the Accountants also are to be given an increase in salary. And if you increase the salaries of the Provertikars and the Accountants, is it not likely that immediately various other departments will put forth their claims for increasing the salaries of officers of corresponding ranks? Therefore, Sir, I regret I am unable to accept the recommendation contained in the motion.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 24.

The following motion was not moved :

MR. S. NARAYANA PILLAI :

24. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,02,343 for Proverthy Cutcherries by Re. 1.

Motion No. 25.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI : സർ, പ്രവർത്തിക്കയ്യേരിക്കുള്ള ന,ം ഠ ന,ന.ർന്ന ശ്രുപയിൽനിന്നും ഒരു ശ്രുപാ കുറക്കണമെന്നുള്ള ഉപക്ഷേപം ഞാൻ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം ഞാൻ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചതു് ഗവണ്മെൻറു് പ്രൈവറു മാക്കറുകളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം സമീപകാലത്തു ഒരു സക്കുലർ അയച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു ഞാൻ അറിയുന്നതുകൊണ്ടാണു്. താമസിയാതെ പ്രൈവറു മാക്കറുകളെല്ലാം സക്കാർ മാക്കറുകളായി എടുക്കുമെന്നും അല്ലെങ്കിൽ പൊന്നംവിലയുംകൊടുത്തെടുക്കുമെന്നും ഉള്ള ഒരു കിംവദന്തി കേൾക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഇതു് പ്രവർത്തികാരന്മാർ നേരിട്ടുപറയുന്നില്ലെങ്കിലും അവരുടെ പ്രവൃത്തികൊണ്ടു് ആ കിംവദന്തി ശരിയല്ലയോ എന്നു സംശയിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. അതിനാൽ പൊതുവേ ഒരു ഭയം പ്രൈവറുചന്ത ഉടമസ്ഥന്മാർക്കു് ഇപ്പോഴുണ്ടു്. അതു വാസ്തവമാണെങ്കിൽ സങ്കടമാണു്. ചന്തകടം ഗവണ്മെൻറിലേയ്ക്കു എടുക്കുന്നതു് Market Regulation Secs. 5 and 12 പ്രകാരം മുന്നമ്മെലിനു അകത്തു ചന്ത ഒണ്ടായിരുന്നാൽ വേറെ ചന്ത ഏർപ്പെടുത്താൻ പാടില്ല. സമീപസ്ഥലങ്ങടം പൊന്നും വിലയുംകൊടുത്തു എടുക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ല. ആ ചന്തയെതന്നെ പൊന്നും വിലകൊടുത്തു എടുക്കാം. ഇതുകൊണ്ടു ചന്ത ഉടമസ്ഥന്മാർക്കു മാത്രമല്ല നഷ്ടംവരുന്നതു്. അതിനോടുകൂടി കെട്ടുപെട്ടിരിക്കുന്ന സമീപസ്ഥലത്തുള്ള കടക്കാർക്കും അതുകൊണ്ടു വളരെ നഷ്ടം ഉണ്ടാകും. ഒന്നാമതു പ്രൈവറുചന്തകടം ഗവണ്മെൻറി

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

ലേക്ക എടുക്കാൻ പാടില്ല. അഥവാ എടുക്കണമെങ്കിൽ ഇങ്ങനെചെയ്യണം. പ്രവർത്തികാരന്മാർ ഇക്കാര്യം ഇന്നുപറഞ്ഞാൽ തരക്കേടില്ല. ഞങ്ങൾ പുറമ്പോക്കുകേസ്സു എടുക്കും എന്നുംമറും പറഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടു നടക്കരുത്. ഇതിനു അപേക്ഷിക്കണംപോലും. അപേക്ഷ മിഥുനം ഒന്നാം തീയതിക്കുമുമ്പു് കൊടുത്തില്ലെങ്കിൽ തള്ളിക്കളയുംപോലും. ജനങ്ങൾക്കു ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി യാതൊരു ശ്രുവുമില്ല. ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു ഇവരെപ്പറ്റി ഇതു വിരോധമുണ്ടെന്നു അറിഞ്ഞില്ല. ഇതേപ്പറ്റിയുള്ള കാര്യങ്ങൾ ശരിയായി അറിഞ്ഞുകഴിഞ്ഞാൽ ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം പിൻവലിക്കുന്നതിനു തയാറാണു്.

MR. K. GEORGE: Sir, There is no circular about this matter, but the question of converting private markets as far as possible into public markets is engaging the attention of Government. But I do not know what proverthicars have to do in this matter. If they harass the people in any way, they can complain to the Tahsildars. The Proverthicars are not at all authorised to harass anybody. The question is whether in suitable places private markets should not be converted into public markets to the advantage of the Government as well as to the market going people.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: Apart from the advantage to the people may I know what is the advantage to Government.

MR. K. GEORGE: Government will get revenue from these markets. I do not see why Government should not get the revenue which now goes to the contractors of the private markets.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Motion Nos. 26 to 28.

The following motions were not made:

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR:

26. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,250 for travelling allowance by Re. 1.

MR. PULIYOOR T P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI:

27. To reduce the allotment of Rs 84,424 for Revenue Survey by Re. 1.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR:

28. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 84,424 for Revenue Survey by Rs. 100

Motion No. 29.

MR. E. E. PANDARATHIL (*Travancore Jenmies South*): Sir, I move the following motion:

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,085 for Establishment by Re. 1

Sir, I shall not to take much time. The motion is intended to bring to the notice of this House and the Government the fact that *vilatharam* rates fixed by the Jenmikaram Settlement Committee are below the *nirak* rates obtaining for these articles.

I shall just point out what the Land Revenue Commissioner says in his report.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. E. E. Pandarathil.]

"The price of agricultural products except paddy and pepper showed a general rise during the year under report when compared with that of the previous year. In regard to the price of paddy, there was no material change for the better. The average price of paddy was 15 chs. per parah in the Trivandrum Division 13 chs. 3 cash in the Quilon Division and 13 chs. 3 cash in the Kottayam Division."

This is just the fact that I have to point out.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: I wish to know, what commutation committeee the member is referring to? There are commutation committees for different divisions as well as for the whole State.

MR. E. E. PANDARATHIL: If I have made any verbal mistakes I wish to be corrected. I referred to commutation committees of particular divisions.

MR. K. GEORGE: Sir, three commutation committees were appointed under Section 46 (3) of the Jenmikudiyan Regulation to fix the commutation rates of paddy as well as various other commodities mentioned in the *Kanapattom* documents. They were presided over by the Dewan Peishkars of the respective Division. Two Jenmies and two Kudiyans were also represented on each committee.

After making enquiries, the committies recommended the adoption of certain rates for conversion of paddy and other commodities into money. Those rates were accepted by Government and published in the Gazette. They were originally put into force for one year but subsequently, extended until the close of 1112. During the period when such rates were in force there were no marked variations in the price. I shall be watching the price of these commodities. And if during the next few months any substantial and material variation is found, I shall recommend to Government the appointment of commutation committees for next year. It will depend on the question whether there is any real need for the creation of such committees.

MR. E. E. PANDARATHIL: In view of the explanation offered by the Revenue Commissioner I beg to withdraw the motion.

The Motion was, by leave, withdrawn. The following motions were not made:

Motion Nos. 30 and 31.

30. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,085 for Establishment by Re. 1.
31. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,085 for Establishment by Re. 1.

Motion No. 32.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: I move the following motion:—

"To reduce the allotment of Rs. 17,872 for Jenmikaram Settlement by Re. 1."

My object in doing so is to ascertain in what condition the work in connection with jenmikaram settlement is. The Regulation was passed more than four years ago. I know for a fact that because the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

settlement has been pending, many Kudiyans have not paid the dues to jenmies nor have the jenmies collected their dues. The consequence will be that when the settlement is over and the records are completed the jenmies will take steps to realise in a lump the arrears due from these Kudiyans. Such a situation will be disastrous from the view point of Kudiyans. They are interested in seeing that this work is completed as soon as possible. As also the Jenmies I wish to get definite information on the subject from the official member.

MR. K. GEORGE: Sir, it is true that Jenmikaram settlement work was started four years back and it is being carried on so long. But I must inform the House that the delay in settlement to a large extent has been due in the initial stages to the indifference shown both, by the jenmies and kudiyans in the matter of submitting jenmikaram statements to the settlement officers. Originally the department filed cases of all jenmom lands as shown in the Settlement Register; but obviously without the co-operation of the jenmies and kudiyans we cannot do anything in the matter. Jenmikaram is the amount due to the jenmies. Unless the jenmi comes forward and presents a statement supported by proper evidence, to show what amounts are due to him from a particular kudiyan, it is impossible to effect any settlement. So, when it was found that the jenmies and kudiyans were not very earnest in the matter, repeated notifications were published in the Gazette. I also held conferences in various parts of the State, and invited the co-operation of the jenmies in the matter of filing cases and as a result, cases gradually began to come in. Now we are coming very near the end of our work. Mr. Thanu Pillai wants to know the extent to which we have advanced. The total number of jenmikaram cases filed was 2,59,968. Of these, the number disposed of up to the end of Mithunam 1112 is 2,56,332. The number of cases remaining disposal comes to 3,600 nearly.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: May I know, have all cases been filed?

MR. K. GEORGE: Nearly all. There are a few cases relating to one or two jenmies who have been rather tardy in filing cases. There are some cases belonging to certain Devaswoms which are held up because, recently, the Government have assumed management of them.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: May I know when the Revenue Commissioner proposes to publish the registers?

MR. K. GEORGE: I will come to that point.

Besides these cases, I expect some more to be filed, not as a result of new cases, but because as a result of transferring back to the jenmikaram cases which have now been taken up for *Karampathippu*. In a large number of cases no statements having been filed in response to notifications published in the Gazette, the Jenmikaram officers were obliged to declare the jenmikaram in those cases as nil. That is to say, for several years, no payment was being made in the shape of *Michavaram* and other dues to the jenmies and some of the jenmies are unable to prove payment in many such cases. Those cases were transferred to

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. K. George.]

Karampathippu in order that *Rajabhogam* may be levied on the land concerned. It is presumed that in these cases the jenmies' rights in lands have become extinguished by limitation.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: May I know the approximate number of cases coming under that category?

MR. K. GEORGE: About 25 or 30 thousand was the original number. Now it is about 18 thousand.

Then when further enquiries under *Karampathippu* rules are made it happens that a number of jenmies and kudiyans come forward with statements and are able to prove that dues have been paid. Then such cases are struck off the *Karampathippu* list and transferred back to jenmikarrm list. Now there are 18 thousand odd cases under *Karampathippu*. These have to be disposed of; and some of these cases will have to go back to the jenmikaram file. There are again some cases which would come up for revision. We are now engaged in checking the work already done. We find a good number of cases not very large in which wrong decisions have been made. Such cases are being taken up for revision. The decisions in revision go back to the jenmikaram settlement officers who have to take them up again and settle the jenmikaram.

As regards the 3,600 odd cases, there are one or two matters that requires mention. Some of these cases are contested and are pending because evidence has to be taken in respect of them. Some others are pending decision because, from the *Kanapattom* documents, it is impossible to identify the lands. The document merely says that 20 cents of land in such and such a survey No. or in the neighbourhood of such and such an area and so on. Particulars must be furished so as to enable the jenmikaram officers to identify definite blocks. In such cases it will be necessary to conduct a small sub division survey. A few others are pending because, the original tenure as shown in the settlement register happens to be wrong. Cases also have come up in which the jenmies claim the lands as Jenmivaka Kudijenmom whereas the settlement register, shows them as *Pandaravagai* Kudijenmom. Really they might belong to jenmies. That being so, pre-settlement records have to be examined and it is only after these records are verified and the correct tenures noted, that we can decide the cases. These are the reasons why, the cases have not been completely disposed of. But the work is being expedited. We hope that the preliminary settlement work will be over in a few months. We are putting strong pressure on the subordinate staff to expedite the work. After the preliminary settlement is over, we have to prepare the jenmikaram register as prescribed by the Regulation. After this, we have to issue *Patta* and prepare *thandaper*. Only after this can the collection work be taken up.

One statement made by Mr. Thanu Pillai does not seem to be correct. Government will not collect all the arrears. The present provision made in the Regulation enables the jenmies to apply to the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

taluk authorities to collect only one year's arrears in their behalf. That is according to section 26 (a) of the Regulation. If that advantage is not availed of, the next course is to resort to the civil courts. Therefore the apprehension that jenmies or rather the Government will all at once take coercive steps to recover several years' arrears together from the Kudiyans is not correct.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: May I know within which approximate time the member hopes to complete the work by way of issue of patta and publish the settlement registers ?

MR. K. GEORGE: I have already answered that point.

PRESIDENT: The time allotted for the Demand has expired.

The above and the following motions lapsed as the time allotted for the Demand had expired :—

Motions 33 to 55.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI:

33. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 9,11,694 for Land Revenue by Rs 5.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI:

34. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 9,11,694 for Land Revenue by Re. 1.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI:

35. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 9,11,694 for Land Revenue by Re. 1.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR:

36. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 9,11,694 for Land Revenue by Re. 1.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI:

37. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 9,11,694 for Land Revenue by Re. 1.

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI:

38. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 9,11,694 for Land Revenue by Re. 1.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI:

39. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 9,11,694 for Land Revenue by Re. 1.

2. TAXES ON INCOME—*Salaries.*

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORATHARAKAN:

40. To omit the allotment of Rs. 3,336 for establishment, allowances and contingencies.

MR. KANNARA GOPALA PANICKAR:

41. To omit the allotment of Rs. 3,336 for establishment, allowances and contingencies, by Re. 1.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI:

42. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,336 for establishment allowances and contingencies by Re. 1.

2. TAXES ON INCOME—*Establishment.*

MR. P. NANOO:

43. To reduce the allotment of Rs, 4,709 for Commissioner's Office by Re. 1.

2. TAXES ON INCOME.—*Total allotment.*

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI:

44. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 26,023 for Taxes on Income by Re. 1

MR. M. L. JANARDANA PILLAI:

45. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 26,023 for Taxes on Income by Re. 1

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. K. T. THOMAS :
46. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 26,023 for Taxes on Income by Rs. 3,336.

MR. P. C. ADICHAN :
47. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 71,200 for Capital Expenditure not charged to Revenue—Survey of Minor Circuits by Re 1

Motions for reduction of total grant under Demand I.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR :
48. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 10,08,917 under Demand I by Re. 1

MR. E. P. VARUGHESE :
49. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 10,08,917 under Demand I by Re. 1.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI :
50. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 10,08,917 under Demand I by Re. 1.

MR. P. V. MATHAI CHEMPARATHY :
51. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 10,08,917 under Demand I by Re. 1.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN :
52. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 10,08,917 under Demand I by Re. 1.

MR. P. K. KUNJU :
53. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 10,08,917 under Demand I by Re. 1.

MR. V. K. VELAYUDHAN :
54. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 10,08,917 under Demand I by Re. 1.

MR. KANNARA GOPALA PANICKAR :
55. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 10,08,917 under Demand I by Re. 1.

The motion that a sum of Rs. 10,08,917 under Demand I—Land Revenue and Taxes on Income—was put to vote and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND II—PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER.

DR. G. D. NOKES : Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 20,401 under Demand II—Public Service Commissioner.

Motion Nos. 56 and 57.

The following motions were not moved :

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI
56. "To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,045 for Secretary by Re. 1.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI :
57 To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,045 for Secretary by Rs. 5.

Motion No. 58.

MR. P. C. ADICHAN (*Nominated*) : Sir, I move "to reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,045 for Secretary by Re. 1".

സർ, പബ്ളിക് സർവീസിൽ അവശസമുദായങ്ങൾക്കു പ്രാതിനിധ്യം വേണമെന്നു പറയുന്നതിനുമുമ്പായി ഇന്നിവിടെ പ്രവൃത്തികാരന്മാരുടെ നിയമനത്തെപ്പറ്റി ബഹുമാന്യന്മാരായ മെമ്പറന്മാർ പുറപ്പെടുവിച്ച വാദപ്രതിവാദം ഞാൻ കാംക്ഷിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. വർഗ്ഗീയപ്രാതിനിധ്യത്തോട് ഞാൻ അശേഷം യോജിക്കുന്നില്ല. വർഗ്ഗീയപ്രാതിനിധ്യം രാജ്യ

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly